

**MINUTES**  
**OF THE BOARD OF**  
**TRUSTEES**  
**INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT**  
**FUND**

OF THE

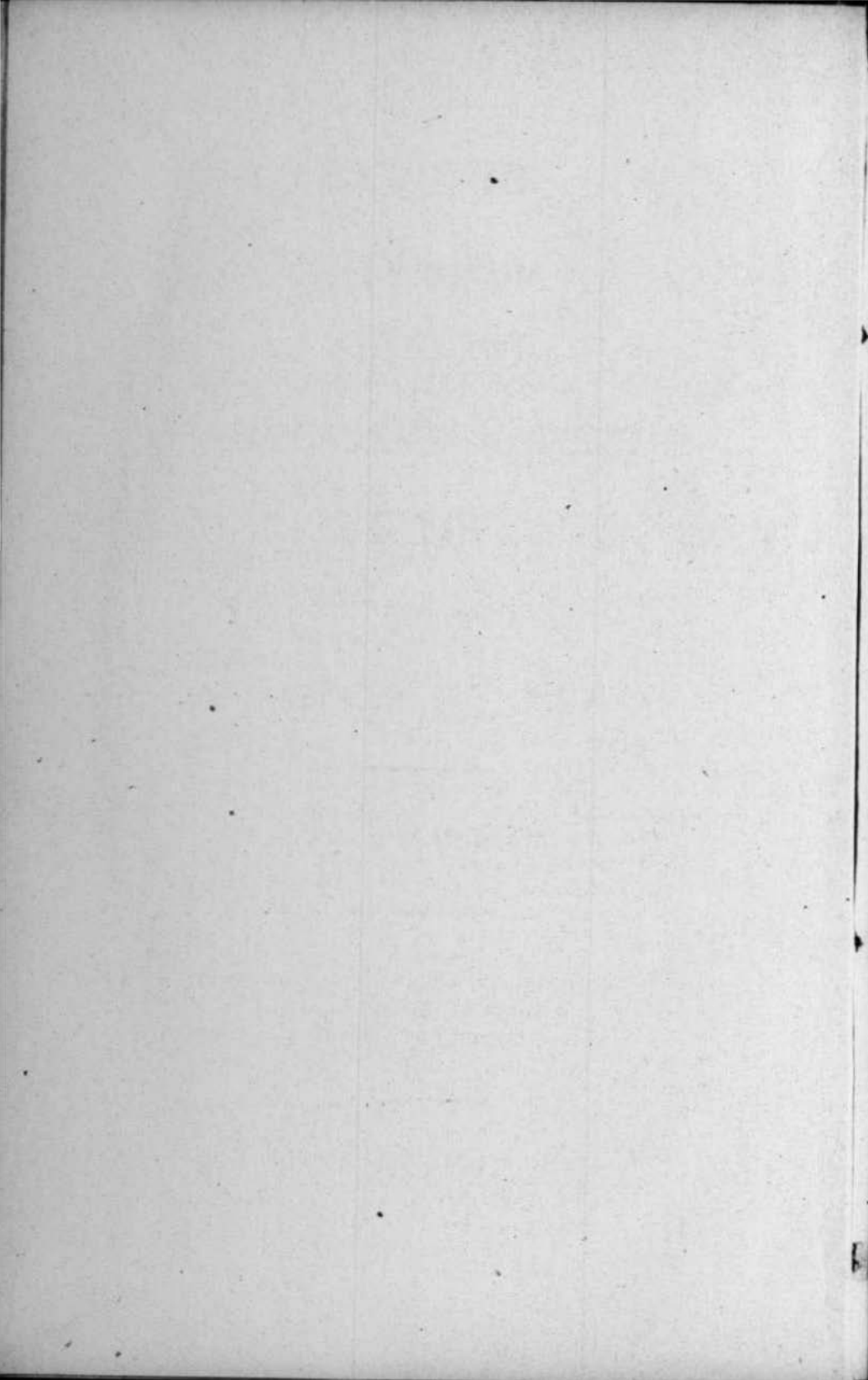
**STATE OF FLORIDA.**

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**VOLUME II.**

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William M. McIntosh, Jr.,  
Secretary and Treasurer.

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Tallahassee, Fla.

1904.





# MINUTES.

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## Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida.

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The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida met in the Attorney General's office in the Capitol February 8, 1873.

Present: His Excellency, O. B. Hart, Governor.  
C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.  
Charles H. Foster, Treasurer.  
Wm. Archer Cocke, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Comr. of Lands & Immigration.

On motion, Charles H. Foster, Esq., was chosen Treasurer of the Board, and Hugh A. Corley was appointed Secretary of the Board and also Salesman.

Hon. T. W. Osborn presented to the Board a proposition on behalf of the Great Southern Railway Company to build their Road according to the specifications of the Internal Improvement Act, and proposing to purchase from the Board certain lands at certain prices and terms.

After discussion, the Board requested His Excellency, Gov. Hart, to endeavor to obtain the opinion of the Supreme Court, as to the power of the Trustees to dispose of the lands belonging to the Fund in the manner and on the terms asked for in the proposition of said Great Southern Railway Company.

On motion the Secretary was authorized to purchase a new Record Book.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest

HUGH A. CORLEY.

Tallahassee, Florida, February 25, 1873.

The Board met in the Executive office in the Capitol.

Present: His Excellency, O. B. Hart, Governor.

C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.

Wm. Archer Cocke, Attorney General.

Charles H. Foster, Treasurer.

Hugh A. Corley, Comr. Lds. & Immigration.

The proceedings of February 8th were read and approved.

His Excellency laid before the Board a communication from Francis Vose, enclosing a letter from said Vose in reference to the Sinking Fund of the Florida Railroad now in New York, alleging that said Fund has been diminished, and suggesting that the Trustees give such order as will procure such application of said Sinking Fund as was ordered by the recent decree in the suit of Vose vs. The Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund and others, and a surrender of such bonds as were purchased by Moses Taylor; and also enclosing certain resolutions which he recommended for consideration and adoption.

The letter in reference to the Sinking Fund was read, discussed and taken under advisement.

The Resolutions were read and considered and after some changes and modifications several of them were adopted as follows:

Resolved, That hereafter copies be kept of all letters relating to Lands or other matters written from the Land Office, and that no letters or vouchers belonging to the office be permitted to be destroyed, and that the Salesman be authorized to purchase a Letter Press—

Adopted by the following vote:

Yeas—Gov. Hart, Messrs. Cowgill, Foster, Cocke & Corley.—5.

Nays—None.

Resolved, That, before the next monthly meeting of the Board, the record books of the Comptroller and Treasurer be compared, so as to ascertain definitely the amount and numbers of the bonds issued by the different Railroads which are now outstanding; and that a report of the same, so far as can be ascertained be made by the Comptroller—

Resolved, That an approximate estimate be made of the quantities of lands in each County belonging to the Fund be reported to the next monthly meeting.

Resolved, That on and after the first day of April next the price of the Swamp and Overflowed Lands be reduced to seventy-five cents per acre—

Resolved. That on and after the first day of April next the lands formerly conveyed to the New York and Florida Lumber, Land and Improvement Company and to E. A. Studwell, reserved from sale by order of the Board on the 21st day of June last, shall be restored to market.

The Board then adjourned to meet again on tomorrow at half past three o'clock, P. M.

Attest

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Fla., February 26, 1873.

The Board met in the Executive office in the Capitol.

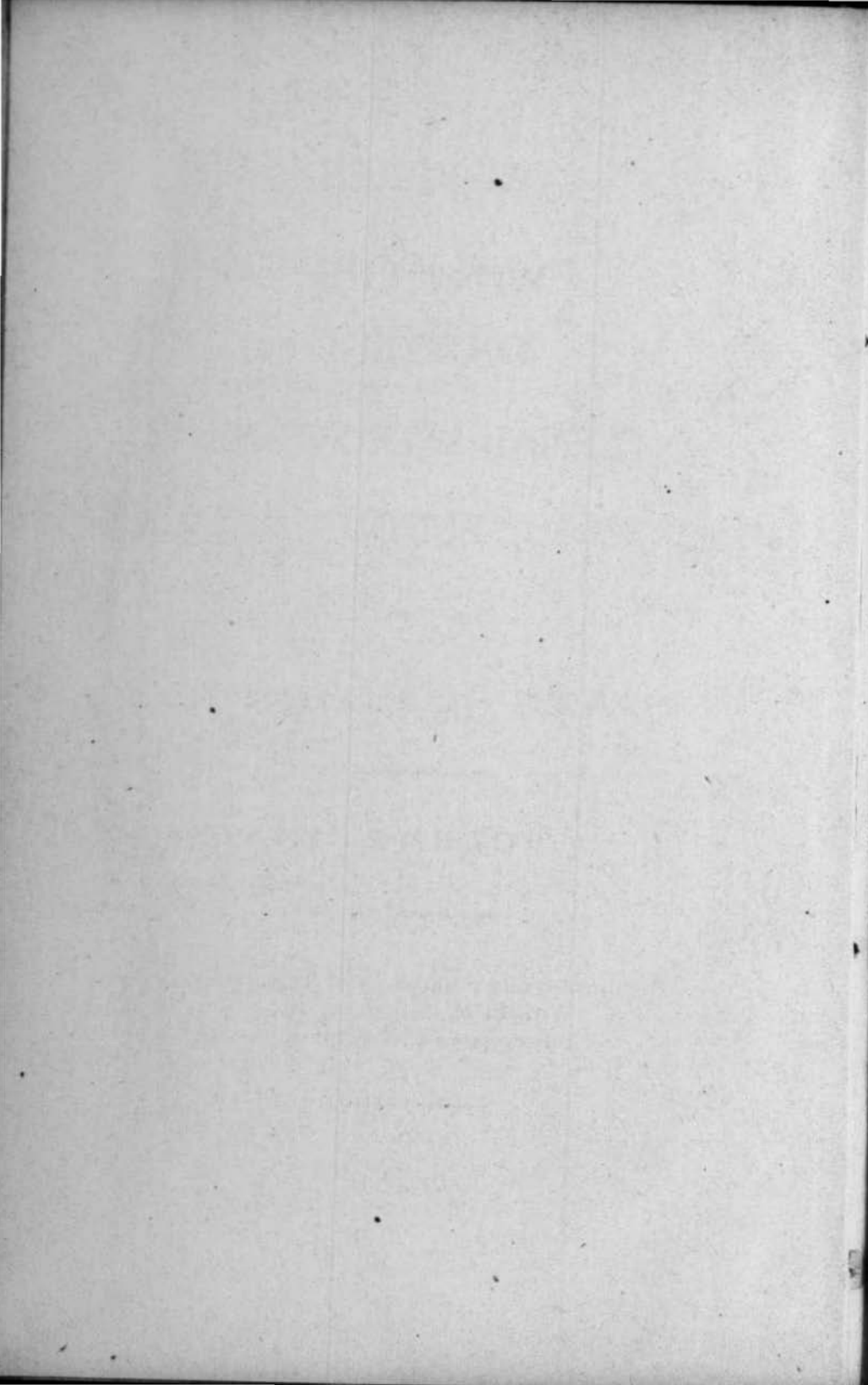
Present: His Excellency, O. B. Hart, Governor.  
C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.  
Wm. Archer Cocke, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Comr. of Lands & Immigration.

The minutes of yesterday's proceedings were read and approved.

After spending some time in discussing the proper mode of obtaining possession of the Sinking Fund of the Florida Railroad now in New York, and disposing of the same by investment, the Board adjourned to meet again on tomorrow at three o'clock P. M.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.



# MINUTES.

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## Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida.

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Present: His Excellency, O. B. Hart, Governor.  
C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.  
Charles H. Foster, Treasurer.  
Wm. Archer Cocke, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Comr. of Lands & Immigration.

On motion, Charles H. Foster, Esq., was chosen Treasurer of the Board, and Hugh A. Corley was appointed Secretary of the Board and also Salesman.

Hon. T. W. Osborn presented to the Board a proposition on behalf of the Great Southern Railway Company to build their Road according to the specifications of the Internal Improvement Act, and proposing to purchase from the Board certain lands at certain prices and terms.

After discussion, the Board requested His Excellency, Gov. Hart, to endeavor to obtain the opinion of the Supreme Court, as to the power of the Trustees to dispose of the lands belonging to the Fund in the manner and on the terms asked for in the proposition of said Great Southern Railway Company.

On motion the Secretary was authorized to purchase a new Record Book.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest

HUGH A. CORLEY.

Tallahassee, Florida, February 25, 1873.

The Board met in the Executive office in the Capitol.

Present: His Excellency, O. B. Hart, Governor.

C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.

Wm. Archer Cocke, Attorney General.

Charles H. Foster, Treasurer.

Hugh A. Corley, Comr. Lds. & Immigration.

The proceedings of February 8th were read and approved.

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The letter in reference to the Sinking Fund was read, discussed and taken under advisement.

The Resolutions were read and considered and after some changes and modifications several of them were adopted as follows:

Resolved, That hereafter copies be kept of all letters relating to Lands or other matters written from the Land Office, and that no letters or vouchers belonging to the office be permitted to be destroyed, and that the Salesman be authorized to purchase a Letter Press—

Adopted by the following vote:

Yeas—Gov. Hart, Messrs. Cowgill, Foster, Cocke & Corley.—5.

Nays—None.

Resolved, That, before the next monthly meeting of the Board, the record books of the Comptroller and Treasurer be compared, so as to ascertain definitely the amount and numbers of the bonds issued by the different Railroads which are now outstanding; and that a report of the same, so far as can be ascertained be made by the Comptroller—



Resolved, That an approximate estimate be made of the quantities of lands in each County belonging to the Fund be reported to the next monthly meeting.

Resolved, That on and after the first day of April next the price of the Swamp and Overflowed Lands be reduced to seventy-five cents per acre—

Resolved. That on and after the first day of April next the lands formerly conveyed to the New York and Florida Lumber, Land and Improvement Company and to E. A. Studwell, reserved from sale by order of the Board on the 21st day of June last, shall be restored to market.

The Board then adjourned to meet again on tomorrow at half past three o'clock, P. M.

Attest

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

---

Tallahassee, Fla., February 26, 1873.

The Board met in the Executive office in the Capitol.

Present: His Excellency, O. B. Hart, Governor.  
C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.  
Wm. Archer Cocke, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Comr. of Lands & Immigration.

The minutes of yesterday's proceedings were read and approved.

After spending some time in discussing the proper mode of obtaining possession of the Sinking Fund of the Florida Railroad now in New York, and disposing of the same by investment, the Board adjourned to meet again on tomorrow at three o'clock P. M.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, February 27, 1873.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: His Excellency, O. B. Hart, Governor.

C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.

Charles H. Foster, Treasurer.

Wm. Archer Cocke, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commr. Lands & Immigration.

On motion, it was

Ordered, That public notice be given of the reduction of the price of Swamp Lands, and the restoration to market of the lands formerly conveyed to the N. Y., and Florida, Lumber Land and Improvement Company and heretofore reserved from sale, by advertisement in the Tallahassee Sentinel and Jacksonville Union, and that 300 copies of the advertisement be stricken off to be distributed.

The Board adjourned until tomorrow 3½ o'clock P. M.

Attest

HUGH A. CORLEY,

Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, February 28, 1873.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.

Chas. H. Foster, Treasurer.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

Mr. Foster was chosen Chairman *pro tem*.

The minutes of the proceedings of yesterday were read and approved.

Mr. Cowgill offered the following Resolution:

Resolved, That, for the purpose of increasing and promoting sales and settlement of lands in Florida, Mr. George H. Mercer be appointed an Agent of the Trustees. His expenses for traveling and agents in New York and other places, not to exceed one hundred dollars per month, shall be paid from the Internal Improvement Fund out of the proceeds of sales made by him, and a commission to be allowed of ten per cent. upon the amount of sales negotiated through his agency.



Upn the adoption of the Resolution, the vote was,  
Yeas—Messrs. Cowgill, Foster and Corley.—3.

Nays—None.

So the Resolution was adopted.

Leonard Robbins having applied for the cancellation of the entry of the NE  $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 31, Township 21, South, Range 24, East upon the ground that said tract was not the land he intended to apply for, on motion of Mr. Corley, it was

Ordered, That said entry be cancelled and that the purchase money therefor be refunded—

Mr. Cowgill offered the following Resolution:

Resolved, That upon conviction of any one for trespassing upon the Internal Improvement or Swamp Lands, one fourth of the value of the lands trespassed upon be given to the informant, provided he furnished the testimony necessary to convict.

Which Resolution was unanimously adopted.

The Board then adjourned until to-morrow.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, March 1, 1873.

The Board met in the Attorney General's office.

Present · C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.

Charles H. Foster, Treasure..

Wm. Archer Cocke, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

After discussing for some time matters connected with the investment of the Sinking Fund of the Florida Railroad Company, the Board adjourned.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,

Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, March 4, 1873.

The Board met in the Attorney General's office.

Present: Charles H. Foster, Treasurer.

Wm. Archer Cocke, Attorney General.

Dennis Eagan, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

Mr. Foster was chosen Temporary Chairman.

Mr. William H. Gleason appeared before the Board on behalf of the Southern Inland Navigation and Improvement Company, and requested an extension of time to enable said Company to complete their work:

And thereupon Mr. Cocke offered the following Resolutions:

Resolved, That the time for the completion of the improvements to be made by the Southern Inland Navigation and Improvement Company is hereby extended until the first day of January A. D. 1877: Provided, that the improvement of the St. Johns River shall be perfected from Lake Harney to Lake Washington, and the Canal cut connecting Lake Washington with Indian River, so that steamboats can run from Jacksonville to Jupiter Inlet, via Lake Washington and Indian River, on or before May 1st, 1875.

Resolved 2nd. That this extension is granted upon the assumption, *prima facie*, that the contracts and agreements heretofore entered into by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund with said Company are legal and regular, and not thereby acknowledging the validity thereof nor binding themselves by any illegal action of the former board, but expressly reserving all right to except to all such contracts or agreements as though the above resolution had not been adopted.

Upon the adoption of the Resolutions the vote was:

Yeas—Messrs. Foster, Cocke and Eagan.—3.

Nays—None.

So the Resolutions were adopted.

Mr. Hugh A. Corley tendered his resignation as Salesman of the Board, which was accepted.

Mr. Dennis Eagan was unanimously elected Salesman. The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, March 13, 1873.

The Board met at the office of the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

Present: C. H. Foster, Treasurer, President, *pro tem*.  
C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.  
Dennis Eagan, Commr. of Lands & Immigration.

On motion, it was

Ordered, That D. Eagan be requested to act as Secretary *pro tem*. in the absence of the Secretary.

Hon. T. W. Osborn appeared before the Board in behalf of the Great Southern Railway Company and presented a proposition for the purchase of Swamp lands by the said Company, as follows:

"This instrument made and entered into this— — — day of — — — A. D. 1873, by and between the Great Southern Railway Company, a corporation duly created under an act of the Legislature of the State of Florida, and to which under act of Congress, approved June 4, 1872, the right of way through the public lands was granted, party of the first part, and the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the said State of Florida, party of the second part:

"Witnesseth, That the said party of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of one dollar in hand received before the execution of this instrument, and the agreement of the said party of the second part, hereinafter contained, agrees, and is hereby firmly bounded unto the said party of the second part, as follows, viz:

"First: To construct a railroad under its charter from a point at or near Kings Ferry, on the St. Marys River, in said State of Florida, to Key West, Florida, with the branch authorized in said Charter, within ten years from the 4th day of June A. D. 1872.

"Second: To construct said road in conformity with the specifications contained in the sixth Section of an act of the Legislature of the said State of Florida entitled An act to Provide for and Encourage a Liberal System of Internal Improvements in this State, approved January 6, A. D. 1855, as follows, viz:

"1. The line of road for sixty feet from the centre shall be cleared of all the standing timber.

"2. The grading shall be for a single track except at depots, turnouts and similar places, where it shall be wider if required by the State Engineer, with a road-bed twenty feet in cuttings, with ditches from two to three and a half in depth below grade, with such widths as the State Engineer may direct, and eighteen feet wide on embankments, at the grade line, with slopes of one and a half feet base to one foot rise; and in all excavations and embankments they shall be so constructed as to have a perfect drainage, and not permit any standing water to come within three feet of the lower side of the cross-tie.

"3. All the cross-ties shall be delivered on the line of the road, and be of heart yellow pine, cypress, white, yellow, post, live or Spanish oak, white or red cedar, and not less than nine inches face, and eight inches in thickness, and shall be well and carefully bedded, and laid within two and a half feet from centre to centre.

"4. At all water-ways sufficient space shall be left for the unobstructed passage of water; and at all points on the line of the road where side-ditches can be cut that will carry off the surface water they shall be constructed by the Company under the direction of the State Engineer.

"5. In the crossing of all streams the bridge shall be constructed according to plans approved by the State Engineer; and over all streams that are navigated suitable draws shall be put in to admit the passage of boats or vessels usually navigating the same, to be decided by the State Engineer.

"6. The gauge of the different railroads shall be uniformly five feet, and connected continuously, so that cars or trains can pass on all the routes indicated without changing freight, and it shall be the duty of the different Railroad Companies to adopt a uniform tariff for transportation of passengers and for hauling the freight in the cars of another Company upon usual and equitable terms and no discrimination shall be made by one Company against the freight or passengers of another company.

"7. The iron rail used shall weigh not less than fifty pounds per lineal yard and be of the best quality of iron, and well fastened to the cross-ties with the best quality of spikes and plates.

"8. The entire equipment shall be of the first class and shall at all times be sufficient for the prompt transportation of all the passengers and freight ordinarily offering.

"9. The grade on no portion of the routes indicated by this act shall exceed forty-five feet per mile, and no single curve shall exceed three degrees of curvature, or be adopted unless approved of by the State Engineer.

"Third. To pay to said party of the second part, and in lawful money, for all lands that may under this agreement be sold and conveyed to said party of the first part, and at the price in this instrument named upon execution of the deeds.

"Fourth. To deposit with the Secretary of the said party of the second part a map or plan showing the line of said road within twelve months from the date of this instrument.

"Fifth. The said party of the second part in good faith, believing that the construction of the railroad above named between the points named and in conformity with the specifications contained in the sixth section of said act, entitled An Act to Provide for and Encourage a Liberal System of Internal Improvements in this State, cannot fail to aid in the settlement and cultivation, and greatly increase the value of all the lands along the line of said road; and in consideration of the sum of one dollar received from the said party of the first part at and before the execution of this instrument and the agreement above set forth, is hereby agreed and bounden unto the said party of the first part, as follows, viz:

"Sixth. When ten miles of said railroad shall be constructed and in running order under the terms and specifications of this agreement, of and from the lands then vested in the said party of the second part, along or nearest said ten miles to sell and to convey unto the said party of the first part for and in consideration of the sum of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) lawful money a number of sections of land equal to twenty sections for each and every mile of said ten miles; and upon the consideration of every additional ten miles of said road, and at the same price, to sell and to convey unto said party of the first part a like number of sections of land along or nearest thereto, and then vested in the said



party of the second part; Provided, however, that the fact of the construction of each ten miles of the said road in accordance with the terms and specifications in this agreement set forth shall be established by the certificate of the Governor of the said State of Florida, a certificate of the engineer of the party of the first part and the sworn statement of the President and Secretary of the last named party.

"Seventh. The foregoing instrument is made subject to a modification of the decree of the United States Circuit Court in the case of Francis Vose complainant, and Harrison Reed et al Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida."

"In witness whereof this agreement is signed in duplicate."

On motion the Board adjourned to meet at the office of the Attorney General at 4 o'clock P. M. tomorrow.

Attest:

D. EAGAN,  
Secretary pro tem.

Tallahassee, Florida, March 15, 1873.

The Board met at the office of the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

Present: C. H. Foster, Treasurer, President pro tem.  
Wm. Archer Cocke, Attorney General.  
C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.  
Dennis Eagan, Commr. of Lands & Immigration.

The proposition of Hon. T. W. Osborn on behalf of the Great Southern Railway Company to purchase certain lands at certain prices was taken up and discussed.

The Board then adjourned to meet again at 11 o'clock A. M. on Monday the 17th instant.

Attest:

D. EAGAN,  
Secretary pro tem.

Tallahassee, Florida, March 17, 1873.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: C. H. Foster, Treasurer, President pro tem.  
Wm. Archer Cocke, Attorney General.  
C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.  
Dennis Eagan, Commr. of Lands & Immigration.

The proposition of Mr. Osborn on behalf of the Great Southern Railway Company for the purchase of certain lands was discussed, and final action thereon was postponed until Wednesday, the 19th instant, to which day the Board then adjourned.

Attest:

D. EAGAN,  
Secretary pro tem.

Tallahassee, Florida, March 19, 1873.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: C. H. Foster, Treasurer, President pro tem.  
Wm. Archer Cocke, Attorney General.  
C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.  
Dennis Eagan, Commr. of Lands & Immigration.

The proposition of Mr. Osborn on behalf of the Great Southern Railway Company for the purchase of certain lands was taken up for consideration.

Mr. Cowgill moved to amend the proposition as follows:

In the Sixth clause, strike out all before the word "provided" and insert

"Sixth, when ten miles of said road shall be constructed and in running order under the terms and specifications of this agreement, of and from the lands then vested in the said party of the second part, from the even numbered Sections along or nearest the said ten miles, and on either side, to sell and to convey unto the said party of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of six thousand four hundred dollars (\$6,400) lawful money, one hundred and twenty-eight thousand (128,000) acres of land; and upon the construction of each additional ten miles of said road, and

at the same price, to sell and convey to the said party of the first part, a like number of acres of land from the even numbered sections along and nearest thereto, and on either side, and then vested in the said party of the second part"

Strike out the Seventh clause or paragraph.

Upon the adoption of the amendment the vote was:

Yeas—Messrs. Foster, Cocke, Cowgill and Eagan.—4.

Nays—None.

So the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Cowgill moved that the proposition as amended be adopted.

Upon which motion the vote was:

Yeas—Messrs. Foster, Cocke, Cowgill and Eagan.—4.

Nays—None.

So the proposition as amended was adopted.

Mr. Cowgill moved that the Governor be requested to cast his vote on the proposition of sale of certain lands to the Great Southern Railway Company; and that he be further requested to sign the contract made and entered into between this Board and the Great Southern Railway Company for the sale of certain lands.

Which motion was unanimously agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Cowgill the Board adjourned to meet again at 12 o'clock M. tomorrow for the purpose of signing the contract made this day with the Great Southern Railway Company—

Attest:

D. EAGAN,

Secretary pro tem.

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Tallahassee, Florida, March 20, 1873.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: C. H. Foster, Treasurer, President pro tem.

Wm. Archer Cocke, Attorney General.

C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.

Dennis Eagan, Commr. of Lands & Immigration.

The following contract made and entered into between the Trustees and the Great Southern Railway Company was presented and signed, viz:



This Instrument made and entered into this twentieth day of March A. D. 1873, by and between the Great Southern Railway Company, a corporation duly created under an act of the Legislature of the State of Florida, and to which, under act of Congress approved June 4, 1872, the right of way through the public lands was granted, party of the first part, and the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the said State of Florida, party of the second part,

Witnesseth, That the said party of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of one dollar in hand received before the execution of this instrument, and the agreement of the said party of the second part, hereinafter contained, agrees, and is hereby firmly bounden unto the said party of the second part, as follows, viz:

"First. To construct a railroad under its charter from a point at or near King's Ferry, on the St. Marys river in said State of Florida, to Key West, Florida, with the branch authorized in said Charter, within ten years from the fourth day of June A. D. 1872.

Second. To construct said road in conformity with the specifications contained in the sixth section of an act of the Legislature of the said State of Florida, entitled An Act to Provide for and Encourage a Liberal System of Internal Improvements in this State, approved January 6, A. D. 1855, as follows, towit:

1. The line of road for sixty feet from the centre shall be cleared of all the standing timber.

2. The grading shall be for a single track except at depots, turn-outs and similar places, where it shall be wider if required by the State Engineer, with a road-bed twenty feet wide in cuttings, with ditches from two to three and a half feet in depth below grade, with such width as the State Engineer may direct, and eighteen feet wide on embankments, at the grade line, with slopes of one and a half feet base to one foot rise; and in all excavations and embankments they shall be so constructed as to have a perfect drainage, and not permit any standing water to come within three feet of the lower side of the cross-tie.

3. All the cross-ties shall be delivered on the line of the road, and be of heart yellow pine, cypress, white yellow

post, live, or Spanish oak, white or red cedar, and not less than nine feet long with not less than nine inches face, and eight inches in thickness, and shall be well and carefully bedded, and laid within two and a half feet from centre to centre.

4. At all water-ways sufficient space shall be left for the unobstructed passage of water; and at all points on the line of the road where side ditches can be cut that will carry off the surface water, they shall be constructed by the Company under the direction of the State Engineer.

5. In the crossing of all streams the bridges shall be constructed according to plans approved by the State Engineer; and over all streams that are navigated suitable draws shall be put in to admit the passage of boats or vessels usually navigating the same, to be decided by the State Engineer.

6. The gauge of the different railroads shall be uniformly five feet, and connected continuously, so that cars or trains of cars can pass on all the routes indicated without changing freight. And it shall be the duty of the different railroad companies to adopt a uniform tariff for transportation of passengers and for hauling the freight in the cars of another company upon usual and equitable terms; and no discrimination shall be made by one company against the freight or passengers of another company.

7. The iron rail used shall weigh not less than fifty pounds per lineal yard, and be of the best quality of iron, and well fastened to the cross-ties with the best quality of spikes and plates.

8. The entire equipment shall be of the first class and shall at all times be sufficient for the prompt transportation of all the passengers and freight ordinarily offering.

9. The grade on no portion of the routes indicated by this act shall exceed forty-five feet per mile, and no single curve shall exceed three degrees of curvature, or be adopted unless approved of by the State Engineer.

*Third.* To pay to said party of the second party and in lawful money, for all lands that may under this agreement be sold and conveyed to said party of the first part, and at the price in this instrument named upon execution of the deeds.

*Fourth.* To deposit with the Secretary of the said party of the second part a map or plan showing the line of said road within twelve months from the date of this instrument.

*Fifth.* The said party of the second part, in good faith, believing that the construction of the railroad above named between the points named and in conformity with the specifications contained in the sixth Section in said act, entitled An Act to Provide for and Encourage a Liberal System of Internal Improvements in this State, cannot fail to aid in the settlement and cultivation, and greatly increase the value of all the lands along the line of said road, and in consideration of the sum of one dollar received from the said party of the first part at and before the execution of this instrument, and the agreement above set forth, is hereby agreed and bounden unto the said party of the first part, as follows, viz:

*Sixth.* When ten miles of said road shall be constructed and in running order under the terms and specifications of this agreement of and from the lands then vested in the said party of the second part from the even-numbered Sections along or nearest the said ten miles and on either side, to sell and convey unto the said party of the first part for and in consideration of the sum of six thousand four hundred (\$6,400) dollars lawful money *one hundred and twenty-eight thousand* (128,000) acres of land, and upon the construction of each additional ten miles of said road, and at the same price to sell and convey to the said party of the first part a like number of acres of land from the even-numbered sections along and nearest thereto and on either side, and then vested in the said party of the second part; *Provided, however.* That the fact of the construction of each ten miles of the said road in accordance with the terms and specifications, in this agreement set forth, shall be established by the certificate of the Governor of the said State of Florida, a certificate of the engineer of the party of the first part, and the sworn statement of the president and Secretary of the last named party.

2 I. I.

In witness whereof this agreement is signed in triplicate.

Seal of the  
Florida Land Office.

In testimony whereof said Trustees have hereunto subscribed their names and affixed their seals, and have caused an impression of the seal of "The Florida Land Office" to be made hereupon at the Capital, in the City of Tallahassee, on this the twentieth day of March A. D. eighteen hundred and seventy-three.

Governor. [L. s.]

C. A. COWGILL, Comptroller. [L. s.]

CHAS. H. FOSTER, Treasurer. [L. s.]

WM. ARCHER COCKE, Atty. General. [L. s.]

D. EAGAN, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration. [L. s.]

The Great Southern Railway by—

T. W. OSBORN, Attorney.

Mr. Foster offered the following Resolutions:

*Resolved*, That D. Eagan, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration for the State of Florida, be and he is hereby instructed to take immediate steps on behalf of the State to settle all claims of the State with the Department of the Interior of the United States arising under the several acts of Congress donating lands to the State, and to receive on behalf of the State any warrants for lands or moneys that may have accrued to the State under any or each of said acts.

*Resolved*, That the Hon. T. W. Osborn be and he is hereby appointed agent for the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, to act in conjunction with the Hon. D. Eagan, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration of the State, to aid said Commissioner in adjusting such claims of the State as may come before them.

Which resolutions were unanimously adopted.

The Board then adjourned until to-morrow morning 11 o'clock.

Attest:

D. EAGAN,

Secretary pro tem.

Tallahassee, Florida, March 25, 1873.

The Board met at the office of the Attorney General.

Present: C. H. Foster, Treasurer, President pro tem.

Wm. Archer Cocke, Attorney General.

C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.

Dennis Eagan, Commr. of Lands & Immigration.

Mr. Cowgill offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, The Attorney General has to attend the U. S. Court to be held in Jacksonville March — to appear as Attorney for the Board of Trustees, I. I. Fund, therefore,

*Be it Resolved*, That the said Wm. A. Cocke Attorney for this Board be allowed to draw upon the Treasurer of the Board for fifty dollars for personal expenses to be incurred while attending the business of the Board.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

D. EAGAN,

Secretary pro tem.

Tallahassee, Florida, April 8, 1873.

The Board met at the Attorney General's office.

Present: C. H. Foster, Treasurer, President pro tem.

Wm. Archer Cocke, Attorney General.

C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.

Denis Eagan, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

Letters were received from Francis Vose, Esq., dated March 7 and April 7, making inquiry respecting the employment of the Attorney General as counsel for the Board and the retaining by him of associate counsel, and also suggesting action to be taken by the Board to bring into market the Swamp Lands conveyed to the Southern Inland Navigation and Improvement Company and those reserved from sale for the benefit of the Jacksonville and St. Augustine Railroad Company.

Mr. Cowgill offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Secretary be directed to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Vose's communication and that he



be informed that it is true that according to our best judgment and discretion, we have employed the Attorney General as counsel of the Board, but he has retained no associate counsel, and we will take into consideration his suggestions in relation to the lands.

On motion, the Board adjourned until Wednesday the 16th inst. at 10 o'clock a. m.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, April 15, 1873.

The Board met in the Attorney General's office.

Present: C. H. Foster, Treasurer, President pro tem.

Wm. Archer Cocke, Attorney General.

C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.

Dennis Eagan, Commissioner of Lands & Immr.

The minutes of the 8th instant were read and approved.

Messrs. Williams and Swann, agents for the selection of swamp and overflowed lands, appeared before the Board and requested the conveyance of lands to them in compensation for the services rendered by them under their contract.

After some time spent in investigation and discussion the Board adjourned until tomorrow morning 10 o'clock.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Fla., April 16, 1873.

The Board met in the Attorney General's office.

Present: Charles H. Foster, Treasurer, President pro tem.

Wm. Archer Cocke, Attorney General.

C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.

Dennis Eagan, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

The matters arising under the contract of Messrs. Williams & Swann were taken up for consideration, and after some time spent in the discussion thereof, the Board took a recess until 4 o'clock, p. m.

4 o'clock p. m. the Board met.

The further consideration of the matters of Williams and Swann was postponed until the next meeting.

The Secretary laid before the Board a letter on behalf of the Pensacola Republican requesting payment for an advertisement of the reduction of the price of Swamp Lands. Said advertisement having been published in said paper without instructions from the Board or the Salesman, the Board declined to make payment therefor.

A proposition was received from William H. Kendrick and Julius C. Rockner offering to remove obstructions to the Navigation of Caloosahatchie from its mouth to Fort Denaud, in consideration of 200,000 acres of Swamp Lands.

Which was read and referred to a committee consisting of Messrs. Eagan & Cowgill.

Application was made on behalf of the heirs of Benjamin Marshall for the refunding of the purchase money paid by said Marshall April 16, 1857, for the entry of Lot No. 4 of Section 35, Township 2, North, Range 28 West, said purchase money amounting to \$48.12. Said Lot had been entered at the United States Land office by Sylvester R. Otis, but had been selected as Swamp Land and approved as such.

Under the provisions of the act of Congress of March 3, 1857, a patent was issued by the United States to the said Otis.

Ordered, That the entry by Benjamin Marshall of Lot No. 4, Section 35, Township 2, North, Range 28, West, 40-10 acres, made April 16, 1857, be canceled, and that the Treasurer of this Board be authorized and instructed to refund to the heirs of the said Marshall the amount of forty-eight dollars and twelve cents, the purchase money paid for said tract.

An application was received from Zachariah Seward to be allowed to change an entry of Swamp Land made by him March 13, 1866, to-wit, the W $\frac{1}{2}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 21, Township 30, South Range, 22 East, and to enter eighty acres of other lands in lieu thereof, upon the

ground that he had made a mistake in his original application and thereby entered a different tract from the one he intended to apply for.

The Board refused to allow the change of entry.

A letter from J. C. Greeley, Receiver of the J. P. & M. R. R. addressed to the Comptroller, with reference to the accounts of said Receiver, was read and placed on file.

The Secretary laid before the Board a receipt signed by S. B. Conover, Treasurer of the Board, dated March 4, 1869, acknowledging the receipt from E. B. Duncan of \$50.78 for the purchase of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 31, Township 12, South, Range 28 East; of which entry there is no record in the Salesman's office.

Said receipt was referred to the Treasurer for investigation.

Davis S. Walker, Esq., on behalf of W. P. Rembert, presented to the Board and demanded the payment of the following bonds issued by the Commissioners of the St. Johns and Indian River Canal viz:

Bonds No. 1, 7, 21, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, & 60, of \$500 each.

Bonds No. 3 & 4 of \$100 each.

David S. Walker, Esq., presented the claim of James G. Speer for payment for services rendered the St. Johns and Indian River Canal Commissioners in the selection of their lands.

The Board adjourned until to-morrow evening 4 o'clock.  
Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,

Secretary.

Tallahassee, Fla., April 17, 1873.

The Board met in the Attorney General's office.

Present: Charles H. Foster, Treasurer, President pro tem.

Wm. Archer Cocke, Attorney General.

C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.

Dennis Eagan, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

The Treasurer reported verbally that the payment by



E. B. Duncan for the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 31, Township 12, South, Range 28, East, had been regularly entered in the accounts of S. B. Conover as Treasurer of the Board.

The Board resumed the consideration of the matters relating to the contract of Messrs. Williams and Swann for selecting Swamp lands.

Mr. Eagan offered the following Resolution:

Whereas, Messrs. Williams and Swann have selected 2,312, 512-81 acres of Swamp Lands for the State of Florida, and this Board has agreed to pay them two cents per acre for such selections to be paid in cash less 20 per cent, or in lands belonging to the Board at \$1.00 per acre the payment of said selections amounting to \$46,250.26 and they have already received the sum of \$19,349.90 in lands in deeds and certificates, leaving a balance of \$26,900.36 due.

Resolved, That deeds be made to them for 16,900.36 from time to time as they may demand them, and that the balance of 10,000 acres due them will be conveyed whenever they furnish the necessary Tract-Books and such further evidence as the Department may require to secure patents to lands selected by them.

Upon the adoption of the resolution the vote was:

Yeas—Messrs. Foster, Cocke, Cowgill and Eagan.—4.

Nays—None.

So the Resolution was adopted.

The following communication was made by Messrs. Williams and Swann:

To the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida:

Gentlemen:

We hereby respectfully request that we be discharged from our contract with you for the further selection of Swamp and Overflowed Lands, understanding such to be your desire.

WILLIAMS AND SWANN.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the application of Messrs. Williams & Swann to be discharged from the contract, for the further selection of swamp and overflowed lands be and the same is hereby accepted.

The following proposition was made to the Board by Marcellus A. Williams, Samuel A. Swann and Hugh A. Corley:

To the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement  
Fund of the State of Florida:

Gentlemen:—

The undersigned propose to your Board to examine and locate all the lands, not already selected and located, which inure to the State as Swamp and Overflowed Lands under the act of Congress approved September 28, 1850, entitled "An act to enable the State of Arkansas and other States to reclaim the Swamp and Overflowed Lands within their limits." To file with the Surveyor General of Florida lists of such selections sworn to in the manner prescribed by the authorities of the United States Government, or such evidence of the character of such lands as may be required by the proper officers in order to establish the right of the State thereto; and to file in the State Land office lists of such selections and copies of the official plats of survey showing the selections so made, and also Tract Books containing such selections, similar to those heretofore furnished by selecting agents.

We further propose to take the necessary measures to obtain for the State, whatever may be due in money or lands as reclamation for swamp lands sold by the United States after September 28, 1850, and to select for the State such lands as may be ascertained to be due the State as such reclamation. To take measures to procure for the State the patents for swamp lands heretofore selected but not patented on account of deficiency of testimony or for other reasons. To procure the approval to the State of the remaining lands due for the purpose of Internal Improvement under the act of September 4, 1841, and select such other lands as are necessary to complete the quantity of 500,000 acres originally granted under said act. And generally to perform all the labor in the field, office and elsewhere, necessary to secure a full and complete adjustment of the claims of the State against the United States arising under the grants made in the acts of September 4, 1841, September 28, 1850 and other acts of Congress relating to Swamp and Internal Improvement Lands.

We make the above proposition on the following terms, to-wit:

For all Lands selected by us and patented to the State, we are to be paid as follows:

Either two cents per acre payable in lands hereafter to be patented; or

One and a half cents per acre, payable in any Swamp Lands.

Nothing to be paid for services in procuring the confirmation of former selections.

Very respectfully,

M. A. WILLIAMS,  
SAML. A. SWANN,  
HUGH A. CORLEY.

The Board adjourned until next Tuesday 10 o'clock A. M.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Fla., April 22, 1873.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Charles H. Foster, Treasurer, President pro tem.

Wm. Archer Cocke, Attorney General.

C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.

Dennis Eagan, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The minutes of the 17th instant were read and approved.

The following papers were laid before the Board, viz:

A communication from D. L. Yulee, President of the Southern Florida Railway, dated February 14, 1873, enclosing a duplicate of a letter from him as such President dated December 26, 1871, by which said Company accepted the provisions of the Internal Improvement Act—Said letters are as follows, to-wit:

Office of the Southern Florida Railway,  
Fernandina, Feb. 14, 1873.

To the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida:

Dear Sirs:—

Finding that the communication made by this Com-

pany to the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund on the 26th Decr. 1871. was not to be found among the files turned over to the present officers, so far as search could be made while I was recently at Tallahassee, I herewith enclose to you a duplicate of the same, and hereby renew and confirm the contents thereof. Be so good as to cause this letter with the enclosure to be placed on file, and acknowledge the receipt.

I am respectfully Yr. obt St.

D. L. YULEE, Pres. Sn. Fla. Ry.

(Duplicate).

Fernandina, Decr. 26, 1871.

To the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, namely: The Governor, the State Treasurer, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Attorney General and Register of State Lands.

Gentlemen: I beg leave to notify you that the Southern Florida Railway Company has been incorporated under the general law of the State for the purpose of constructing a part of the lines provided for in your trust; and that they propose to proceed with the construction of that part of the line lying between Amelia Island on the Atlantic and the waters of Tampa Bay, in South Florida, which lies between Waldo and Ocala, and the construction afterwards also of the part South thereof to Tampa, if not sooner built by others; and that the Company will construct the same under the provisions of the act entitled An Act to provide for and encourage a liberal system of Internal Improvements in this State, approved January 6, 1855, of which act and all its provisions the said Southern Florida Railway Company make full acceptance, and hereby notify you of the same.

I have the honor to be Yr Servt.

D. L. YULEE,

President Southern Florida Railway.

Ordered, That the foregoing communications be spread upon the minutes and placed on the file and that the Secretary notify Hon. D. L. Yulee of their receipt and the action taken.

Also, the following order and receipt:

Jacksonville, Feb. 6, 1873.

To Gov. O. B. Hart:

Dear Sir:—You will be kind enough to pay to General H. R. Jackson any amount in your hands paid you by D. L. Yulee on account of Sinking Fund of "Atlantic Gulf and West India Transit Company" (formerly Florida Railroad) and this will be a receipt to you for the same.

Yours respectfully,

A. DOGGETT, Receiver I. I. F.  
(Indorsed).

Tallahassee, Febr. 10th, 1873.

Received from Gov. O. B. Hart an order signed by D. L. Yulee V. P. and directed to James M. Baker, Solicitor of the U. S. Circuit, for eleven hundred and forty dollars (\$1,140.00) which when paid will be in full of the within.

HENRY R. JACKSON.

Ordered, That the above order and endorsement be spread upon the minutes and filed by the Treasurer of the Board.

Also, a communication from D. L. Yulee, President of the South Florida Railway Company dated Feb. 11, 1873, requesting that the further sale of lands lying within six miles of their line of Road be suspended until lists can be prepared of the portion to which said Company is entitled, and that a statement be furnished of the lands within six miles of the road which have been sold since the 3rd of January, 1873. Ordered, That said communication be referred to the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

Also a communication from D. L. Yulee, Vice President of the Atlantic and Gulf and West India Transit Company dated March 3, 1873, with regard to a proposed investment of the Sinking Fund of the Florida Railroad Company in the guaranteed Bonds of said Company held by Francis Vose; which was read and placed on file.

Mr. Cocke stated to the Board his intention to go to Jacksonville this week for the purpose of attending to certain matters of litigation in which the Trustees are parties; whereupon on motion of Mr. Cowgill, it was

Ordered, That the Treasurer of this Board pay to the Attorney General fifty dollars on account of professional services and personal traveling expenses.



The proposition of Messrs. Williams, Swann & Corley for the selection of Swamp Lands was referred to the Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,

Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, April 30, 1873.

The Board met at the residence of Attorney General Cocke.

Present: Charles H. Foster, Treasurer, President pro tem.

C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.

Wm. Archer Cocke, Attorney General.

Dennis Eagan, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

The Commissioner called the attention of the Board to the fact that he had received a letter from F. A. Dockray, Esq., on behalf of the Jacksonville and St. Augustine Railroad Company, demanding the withdrawal from market of the lands embraced in a schedule filed by said Company August 23, 1872, being selected by said Company under their contract with the Trustees of March 8, 1872, to make up the deficiencies existing in the odd-numbered Sections within six miles of said Road; and the Commissioner requested the instructions of the Board with reference thereto.

The following preamble and resolution were unanimously adopted:

*Whereas*, We believe that the contract made with the Jacksonville and St. Augustine Railroad Company March 8, 1872, so far as it grants to said Company the Swamp and Overflowed Lands in the odd-numbered Sections within six miles of said Road and branches, and authorizes said Company to select other lands to make up the quantity of 640 acres for each odd-numbered Section not containing that quantity of unsold swamp lands, is illegal and invalid;

*Therefore Resolved*, That the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration be instructed not to withdraw from

market the lands embraced in the Schedule filed by said Company August 23, 1872, such lands being a portion of said grant; and that all the lands already granted and withdrawn from market under said contract shall be paid for at the price fixed upon by said Company and the Trustees in said Contract.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, May 10, 1873.

The Board met at the residence of Attorney General Cocke.

Present: C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.

Wm. Archer Cocke, Attorney General.

Dennis Eagan, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

On motion Mr. Eagan was chosen President pro tem.

The minutes of April 30 were read and corrected.

An application was received from the Jacksonville and St. Augustine Railroad Company for the purchase of lands to aid in the construction of said Road. Whereupon the following Resolutions were offered:

WHEREAS, Application has been made to this Board by the Jacksonville and Saint Augustine Railroad Company for the purchase of lands to aid the construction of said Railroad and its branches;

AND WHEREAS, It has been made to appear satisfactorily to this Board that the building of said line of railroad will result in reclaiming a large quantity of the public lands held in trust by this Board, so that said lands will thereby be rendered fit for cultivation, opened to easy and direct communication and made highly desirable for settlement;

AND WHEREAS, To successfully accomplish the enterprise projected and authorized by the charter of the said Railroad Company is an undertaking worthy of the liberal support and encouragement of the Internal Improvement Fund, so far as said enterprise is calculated to aid in accomplishing the purposes of the trust held by this Board, to-wit: the drainage of the Swamp and Overflowed

Lands and to provide means for the actual settlement and cultivation of all the lands held in trust for Internal Improvements;

AND WHEREAS, It is of the greatest importance to the Fund that the lands held in Trust be so disposed of as will inure most beneficially and speedily to the Internal Improvement Fund. It is therefore

*Resolved*, That all the odd and even-numbered Sections of the Swamp and Overflowed Lands for six miles in width on each side of said Railroad, and all the odd and even-numbered Sections of said lands not heretofore sold or disposed of in Township Seven (7), South, of Ranges Twenty-seven (27), Twenty-eight (28) and Twenty-nine (29) East, and in Township Eight (8), South, of Ranges Twenty-seven (27), Twenty-eight (28) and Twenty-nine (29) East and in Township Nine (9) South of Ranges Twenty-seven (27) Twenty-eight (28) and Twenty-nine (29) East and in Township ten (10), South of Ranges Twenty-seven (27) Twenty-eight (28) Twenty-nine (29) and Thirty (30) East be and are hereby sold to the said Railroad Company for ninety-six dollars (\$96) per section of six hundred and forty (640) acres; and the titles to said lands shall be transferred to, and shall vest in said Company in fee simple, as follows: On the completion of every five miles of road and on payment of one seventh of the total amount herein contracted to be paid by said Railroad Company for the lands hereby sold, then the title to one seventh of the whole quantity of lands sold to said Company shall be transferred to and vest in said Company; and so on for each and every five miles of road completed; or the title to all of the lands hereby sold shall vest in the said Railroad Company on payment of the total amount contracted to be paid for all the lands with a guarantee which shall be satisfactory to the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, of the building of the road; and it is expressly understood as a condition of this contract that the said Jacksonville and Saint Augustine Railroad Company assumes no indebtedness for which said lands are pledged or mortgaged in law to the unpaid creditors of the Internal Improvement Fund, but that on the payment of the aforesaid sum of ninety-six dollars (\$96) per section, as aforesaid, any or all liens under which said lands now exist are fully



and completely discharged and removed.

Resolved, That the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration do reserve from sale or entry all the lands herein sold to the Jacksonville and Saint Augustine Railroad Company whenever the said Company shall file in the office of said Commissioner a map indicating the route of said road and its branches, or shall file an accurate description of said Route, indicating Townships, Ranges, Sections and fractional parts of Sections through which the line of said road shall be built.

Resolved further, That said railroad shall be commenced on or before January 1st, A. D. 1874, and completed within one year thereafter. Upon the question of adopting said resolution the vote was:

Yeas—Messrs. Eagan, Cocke and Cowgill (3).

Nays—None.

So the Resolutions were adopted.

On motion it was ordered, That the President and Secretary notify F. A. Dockray of the adoption of said resolutions, and that the Board are ready to execute the contract.

Mr. Eagan, to whom was referred the proposition of Messrs. Williams, Swann and Corley for the Selection of Swamp and Internal Improvement Lands, reported to the Board an amended or modified proposition, and recommended that it be accepted. Said proposition is as follows:

To the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, of the State of Florida:

Gentlemen:—

We propose to your Board to examine and locate all lands inuring to the State of Florida as Swamp and overflowed Lands under the act of September 28, 1850, and to select the Lands due the State for the purpose of Internal Improvement under the Act of September 4, 1841. To file with the proper officers of the United States lists of selections of Swamp Lands with such evidence as may be necessary to establish the claim of the State thereto; and to file in the State Land office lists of all the lands selected either as Swamp Lands or Internal Improvement Lands with Township plats showing such selections, and also Tract Books similar to those heretofore furnished by Selecting Agents.

We further propose to assist the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration in procuring a full settlement of the claims of the State against the United States for Swamp and Internal Improvement Lands, and to furnish such evidence as may be necessary to enable the State to obtain the lands or reclamation money that may be due under the Act of Congress of March 2nd, 1855. For these services we ask to be paid as follows:

Two cents per acre for all Lands selected by us and patented to the State, payable in lands hereafter to be patented; or, one and a half cents per acre for all lands selected by us and patented to the State, payable in any Swamp Lands.

Very respectfully,  
WILLIAMS, SWANN AND CORLEY,  
Per HUGH A. CORLEY.

On motion said proposition was accepted, the payment to be made at the rate of two cents per acre for all Lands selected by Williams, Swann and Corley, and patented to the State, payable in lands hereafter to be patented and the Attorney General was requested to prepare a contract for execution.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, May 16, 1873.

The Board met in the office of the Attorney General.

Present: Charles H. Foster, Treasurer, President pro tem.

C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.

Wm. Archer Cocke, Attorney General.

Dennis Eagan, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The minutes of the proceedings of May 10th were read and approved.

Mr. Eagan offered the following Resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller of the State of Florida and member of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State, be and he is

hereby constituted the agent and Attorney of this Board, and directed to proceed to the city of New York, and there to demand, collect and take into his possession all moneys, bonds and funds belonging to or under the control of this Board and in the hands and possession of any person or persons in said City of New York, and especially to collect and receive from Moses Taylor, late agent of the Board or from any Court or Receiver, the money, funds or bonds in his or their possession belonging to or subject to the control of this Board, or which may be placed under the control of this Board, by the adjudication of any Court; and to accomplish this purpose he is directed and empowered to take any measures in his judgment necessary by the employment of or change of counsel, or otherwise.

Mr. Hugh A. Corley tendered his resignation as Secretary of the Board, to take effect after today, which was accepted.

Mr. Eagan offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That C. H. Foster, Treasurer of this Board, be and he is hereby authorized to pay the incidental and all other expenses necessary for the management and sale of lands belonging to the Internal Improvement Fund upon the same being audited by the Board.

On motion of Mr. Eagan it was—

Ordered, That the Treasurer be required to give a bond in the penal sum of ten thousand dollars for the faithful discharge of his duties.

Notice was given to the Board that Julius C. Rockener, of Polk County, Florida, had purchased the interest and share of James D. Green in the Pease Creek Emigrant & Agricultural Company, and that Thomas Maddox, of Cincinnati, Ohio, had purchased the interest and share of Aaron Barnett in said Company; and Mr. C. A. Cowgill presented a power of attorney executed by the said Julius C. Rockener and Thomas Maddox authorizing him in their names to sign, seal and execute the bond heretofore made by Frederick Filer and others for the faithful performance of the contract made by said Company with the Trustees of the Internal Improvement

Fund, in lieu of the said James D. Green and Aaron Barnett.

Whereupon the following Resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That this Board will release James D. Green and Aaron Barnett from the bond executed by them in connection with other parties for the faithful performance by the Pease Creek Emigrant and Agricultural Company of their contract with the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, when said bond shall be signed by or on behalf of Julius C. Rockener and Thomas Maddox in place of the said Green and Barnett.

Mr. Cowgill thereupon signed and sealed said bond on behalf of Julius C. Rockener and Thomas Maddox, and filed with the Board the Power of Attorney authorizing such signature.

Mr. Cowgill offered the following Resolution which was adopted:

Resolved, That from and after the first of June the salary of the Treasurer of this Board shall be five hundred dollars per annum and the salary of the Secretary shall be two hundred and fifty dollars per annum, payable quarterly.

A petition was received from Messrs. Williams and Swann for the cancellation of an entry made by them September 12, 1871, and assigned by them to James A. Macdonald (John A. Macdonald) for reasons set forth in a communication by them.

The consideration of said petition was postponed.

A communication was received from Benjamin O. Grenad proposing to contract with the Trustees for the removal of obstructions to the navigation to the Withlatchoochee River from its mouth to Lake Panasofkee; which was read and placed on file.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

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The following is the contract made and entered into with Messrs. Williams, Swann and Corley for the selection of State Lands in compliance with a resolution of May 10, 1873.

This Agreement made this eighteenth day of May eighteen hundred and seventy-three, between the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida of the one part, and Marcellus A. Williams, Samuel A. Swann, and Hugh A. Corley of the other part, Witnesseth That the said Trustees do hereby contract with and employ the said Williams, Swann and Corley to examine, select and locate for the State of Florida all the lands to which said State is entitled under the provision of the act of Congress approved September 28th, 1850, entitled "An Act to enable the State of Arkansas and other States, to reclaim the Swamp and Overflowed Lands within their limits" and the act of Congress approved September 4, 1841, entitled "An Act to appropriate the proceeds of the sales of public lands, and to grant pre-emption rights." And the said Marcellus A. Williams, Samuel A. Swann and Hugh A. Corley do covenant and agree to use all due and proper diligence in securing for the State the lands granted by the acts of Congress aforesaid, and that they will execute the duties contemplated in said acts to be done on behalf of the State, that they will file in the office of the Surveyor General of Florida lists of all the swamp and overflowed lands selected by them with such evidence of the character of said lands and in such form as is now or may hereafter be prescribed by the proper authority of the United States, and that they will file in the State land office lists of all selections made by them and copies of the official plats of Survey of the Township embracing the swamp lands selected, and tract books embracing and describing the same. And the said Williams, Swann and Corley do further promise and agree that they will furnish the evidence necessary to establish the character of the lands for which the State claims indemnity under the provisions of the acts of Congress approved March 2nd, 1855, and March 3rd, 1857, and will render their assistance to the said Trustees and particularly to the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration in procuring a complete adjustment of all the claims of the State arising under the provisions of any of said acts of Congress, and will aid and assist and co-operate with said Commissioner in endeavoring to procure for the State all the lands or moneys properly inuring to said State under said acts performing



such duties as may be required for the confirmation of the title of the State to lands which have already been selected and locating such as have not been heretofore selected. And it is hereby stipulated and agreed that the said Williams, Swann & Corley shall be allowed and entitled to receive as compensation for their services in the premises, two cents per acre for all the lands which they shall select under this agreement and which shall be patented to the State of Florida to be paid in Lands hereafter to be patented to the State at the market price thereof at the time of payment.

In witness whereof the said parties have signed and sealed this contract in duplicate the day and year first above mentioned.

|          |                             |         |
|----------|-----------------------------|---------|
| (Signed) | OSSIAN B. HART, Governor,   | [Seal.] |
|          | C. A. COWGILL, Comptroller, | [Seal.] |
|          | CHAS. H. FOSTER, Treasurer, | [Seal.] |
|          | W. A. COCKE, Atty. Genl.    | [Seal.] |
|          | D. EAGAN, Com. L. & I.      | [Seal.] |
|          | M. A. WILLIAMS.             | [Seal.] |
|          | SAML. A. SWANN,             | [Seal.] |
|          | HUGH A. CORLEY.             | [Seal.] |

Tallahassee, Florida, July 14, 1873.

The Board met at the office of the Attorney General.

Present: C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.  
 Wm. A. Cocke, Atty. Genl.  
 D. Eagan, Commr. of Lands & Immr.

On motion of Mr. Cowgill, the Atty. General was chosen President pro tem.

On motion of Mr. Cowgill, D. Eagan Commissioner of Lands & Immigration was elected permanent Secretary of the Board to date from June 1st, 1873.

The minutes of the proceedings of May 16th was read and approved.

The report of C. A. Cowgill Comptroller of his doings while in New York City under resolution of May 16, 1873, was read and received, which is as follows:

Tallahassee, Fla., July 14, 1873.

Gentlemen:

I have honor to report that in compliance with instruction from the Trustees I attempted when in New York last month to obtain possession of the remnant of the sum arising from the sale of the Fla. R. R. and placed in the custody of Moses Taylor for the purchase of the Florida R. R. Bonds. This money (a sum of \$25,000) had been taken from the possession of Moses Taylor and placed in the hands of Mr. Coleman a receiver appointed by Judge Bernard, to await the result of a suit brought by Mr. Vose against Harrison Reed and others to compel the application of this money to the payment of past due coupons of the said Bonds.

Last month the court of appeals of New York decided adversely to Mr. Vose, and I immediately attempted to obtain the money from the receiver, the sum being now, after the lawyers fee are paid about \$16,000, and there would have been no difficulty in accomplishing so desirable a result had the receiver been in New York; but he left this country more than a year ago to avoid trial of suit brought against him for corrupt practice as a member of the Tweed Ring. Mr. Dickerson informs me that Coleman's securities are good and that the money will be obtained, although it may be necessary to sue upon his bond. I transferred my power of Atty to Mr. Dickerson who promised to take prompt measures to collect the money and transmit it to the Treasurer of the Internal Improvement Fund.

I found that Mr. Dickerson had been acting as counsel for the Trustees, his last act being to present a statement of case before the N. Y. Court of Appeals, a copy of which accompanies this letter.

Very respectfully,

C. A. COWGILL,

Comptroller.

To Trustees Int. Imp. Fund.

On motion of Mr. Cowgill—

The Secretary was instructed to notify Messrs. Ambler & Bridges, that the Trustees of the Int. Imp. Fund were informed that Mr. Dockary had withdrawn from the J. & St. A. R. R. Co. and that he would make no further effort to secure the completion of said Road,

and that unless they could assure the Trustees that immediate steps would be taken to secure the early completion of the road that the grant of land made by the Trustees to aid in building said road would be rescinded and the said lands will be placed in market subject to sale as other State lands.

An application was received from Messrs. Henderson & Henderson, Attys at Tampa on behalf of F. J. Wiley & W. C. Aitken asking that Wiley & Aitken be allowed to change an entry of swamp lands made by them Oct. 28, 1870, from Lot No. 2 Sec. 35, T. 30 S., R. 15 E. to Lot No. 2 Section 35 T. 30 S., R. 18 E. which land was intended to be entered by them. The Board refused to make the change for the reason that the records of the State land office shows that Lot No. 2 Section 35, T. 30 S., R. 15 E. was the land applied for by Messrs. Wiley and Aitken besides the change can not be made as Lot No. 2 Section 35, T. 30 S. R. 18 E. is not State but Government land. The Secretary was instructed to so notify the parties and to say that proper deeds would be made to them for Lot No. 2 Sec. 35 T. 30 S. R. 15 E.

Mr. Eagan offered the following resolution:

Which was unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That from and after the 1st Sept. next the price of Swamp and overflowed lands should be as follows:

For Forty acres one dollar per acre. For more than forty and not exceeding eighty acres ninety cents per acre. For more than eighty and not exceeding two hundred acres eighty cents per acre. For more than two hundred and not exceeding six hundred and forty acres seventy-five cents per acre.

For more than six hundred and forty acres seventy cents per acre.

But all entries of land at less than one dollar per acre, shall not be in detached parcels but must be in compact bodies, unless the intervening lands are other than swamp lands.

Provided, however, that any application now on file may be entered at the present price of seventy-five cents per acre at any time prior to the 1st day of September next and provided further that any entry of any regular sub-division of a section the price per acre shall be fixed

upon the estimate of six hundred and forty acres to the section, without regard to any excess or deficiency of acres.

On motion, it was ordered that the above resolution be published in the Tallahassee Sentinel, Jacksonville Union and Pensacola Express.

Mr. Eagan offered the following resolution:

Which was unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That M. A. Williams, S. A. Swann and Hugh A. Corley be and they are hereby appointed agents of the Board for the sale of swamp lands and that as such agents they will be allowed as compensation for their services a commission of ten per cent. on the first ten thousand dollars worth of lands they may sell eight per cent. on the next five thousand dollars' worth; six per cent on the next five thousand dollars and five per cent. on the balance, but they shall not be allowed any commissions on the sales of land in tracts of one hundred and sixty acres or less.

The commissions above specified to be retained by them when the entries are made and the said agents are hereby authorized and requested to use their endeavors to protect from trespass the lands belonging to the Internal Improvement Fund and to ascertain and report the names of such persons as have or may hereafter trespass upon said lands and the said agents are hereby authorized on behalf of this Board in our name to prosecute all such persons either by procuring indictments or bringing civil suits for the recovery of damages, as they may deem advisable, and when any person shall have committed such trespass through inadvertance or mistake or when in any case the interest of the Fund and public justice would not be promoted by prosecuting the same before the Courts, the said agents shall be and they are hereby allowed to compromise such trespass and receive the damages. Provided, however, that such trespassers shall in all cases be required to pay for the lands trespassed upon at not less than one dollar per acre.

On motion of Mr. Cowgill it was

Ordered that the appointment of Geo. H. Mercer as agent for the sale of State lands be and the same is hereby revoked.

Mr. Cowgill offered the following resolution:

Which was unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That D. Eagan Comr. of Lands & Immigration for the State of Florida be and he is hereby directed to proceed to Washington and take all the necessary steps on behalf of the State to settle all claims of the State with the Department of the Interior of the United States arising under the several acts of Congress donating lands to the State and to receive for the State all warrants Patents or moneys that may have accrued to the State under any of the acts of Congress.

Resolved, That Messrs. Williams, Swann and Corley agents of the Board of Internal Improvement Fund for the Selection of State lands be and they are hereby requested to act in conjunction with D. Eagan of Lands & Immigration, and to aid said Commissioner in adjusting such claims of the State as may come before them.

On motion of Mr. Cowgill it was ordered that the Treasurer of this Board pay to D. Eagan Commissioner of Lands & Immigration one hundred and thirty Dollars for the purpose of defraying his expenses to Washington & return.

The Petition of S. M. Gary asking that the purchase money paid by him for the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{2}$  section 26 T. 15 S. R. 23 E, be refunded for the reason that said land is improperly designated on the maps and Plats of the State land office & by said misrepresentation on the Public maps he was lead to enter same, when upon actual survey it was found to other than the lands he wanted was referred to Commissioner of Lands & Immigration with a request that he investigate & report whether such land is improperly designated on the maps.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

D. EAGAN,  
Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Fla., July 22, 1873.

A called meeting of the Trustees of the Int. Imp. Fund was held in the office of the State Treasurer.

Present: C. H. Foster, State Treasurer.

W. A. Cocks, Atty Genl.

C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.

C. H. Foster Acting as chairman &

C. A. Cowgill as Secretary.



Edward Houston by his Attorney D. S. Walker, delivered to the Trustees one hundred and eight of the first mortgage bonds of the Florida Atlantic and Gulf Central R. Road Co., all said bonds being signed by the President of said Co., on Sept. 1, 1857, and all for one thousand dollars each, all issued under the Act of Jan'y 6, 1855, & all certified by the Trustees of the Int. Imp. Fund of the State of Florida according to the provision of said act & all having coupons attached thereto as hereafter described, each coupon being for the sum of thirty-five dollars, said bonds & coupons being the same which were taken up by said Houston as special agent of the Trustees with funds furnished to him by them, the coupons now on said bonds being all that were on them at the several and different dates & times when said bonds were purchased & taken up by said agent as reported by him.

Whereupon it was ordered by the Trustees that said bonds & coupons be cancelled. And thereupon each of said bonds & coupons was cancelled, in the presence of the Trustees by punching sundry holes in each of said bonds & each of said coupons with the cancelling instrument of the Trustees.

And it was further ordered that each of said bonds & each of said coupons so cancelled be preserved by the Treasurer of the Trustees to be burned or otherwise destroyed as may hereafter be directed.

And it was further ordered that the Secretary of the Trustees furnish said Houston with a copy of these proceedings.

29 of said bonds has each 60 coupons attached to it of \$35 each, the first of said coupons fell due March 1st 1863, said bonds are numbered as follows: 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 238, 239, 240, 241, 393, 394.

2 of said bonds have each 59 coupons of \$35 each attached to it, the first of which fell due on Sept. 1, 1863, said bonds are numbered as follows, 129 & 323.

43 of said bonds have each 49 coupons attached to it of \$35 each, the first of which fell due on Sept. 1, 1868, said bonds are numbered as follows, viz: 90, 96, 97, 98, 128, 130, 311, 312, 317, 318, 336, 337, 338, 397, 398, 507, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537,

538, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555.

1 of said bonds has 48 coupons attached to it, of \$35 each, the first of which fell due March 1, 1869, said bond is numbered 100.

6 of said bonds have each 46 coupons attached to it, the first of which fell due March 1, 1870, said bonds are numbered 109, 111, 151, 152, 173, 363.

5 of said bonds have each 45 coupons attached to it of \$35 each, the first of which fell due Sept. 1, 1870, said bonds are numbered 108, 110, 112, 113, 117.

7 of said bonds have 45 coupons attached to each, the first of which fell due Sept. 1, 1870, said bonds are numbered as follows: 54, 148, 149, 150, 51, 52, 53.

2 of said bonds have 43 coupons of \$35 each attached to each, the first of which fell due Sept. 1, 1871. The numbers of said bonds are as follows: 222, 223.

1 of said bond has 41 coupons of \$35 each attached to it the first of which fell due Sept. 1, 1872, the number of said bond is 114.

10 of said bonds have 41 coupons of \$35 each attached to each, the first of which fell due Sept. 1, 1871. The number of said bonds are as follows, viz: 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 510.

2 of said bonds have 43 coupons attached to each of \$35 each, the first of which fell due Sept. 1, 1871. Said bonds are numbered as follows: 55 & 56.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

C. A. COWGILL, Comptroller,  
Secretary pro tem.

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Tallahassee, Fla., July 29th, 1873.

A called meeting of the Trustees was held in the office of the Attorney General.

Present: C. H. Foster, Treasurer.  
W. A. Cocke, Atty. Genl. &  
C. A. Cowgill, Compt.

The Treasurer presented his bond as Treas. of the Trustees for \$10,000, signed by himself, W. R. Pettis, M. L. Stearns & J. W. Gilbert, which was approved and ordered to be filed.

The following accounts were presented, allowed & ordered to be paid by the Treasurer:

|                                           |         |
|-------------------------------------------|---------|
| To .....                                  |         |
| D. Eagan, for express charges.....        | \$ 2 50 |
| S. L. Tibbetts, postage to May 10.....    | 17 11   |
| S. L. Tibbetts, postage on May 16.....    | 15 00   |
| J. J. Yokum, binding book of patents..... | 1 50    |
| J. McDougal, book for Treas.....          | 1 50    |

A communication from

Benj. O. Grenad, John G. Chambers & J. A. Lee,

Enclosing articles of incorporation to remove obstructions from the Withlacoochee river—consideration postponed. Also a letter from Williams, Swann & Corley accepting the agency for the sale of land.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

C. A. COWGILL,

Secy. pro tem.

Tallahassee, Fla., Oct. 25th, 1873.

The Board met at the office of the Attorney General.

Present: C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.

W. A. Cocke, Atty. Genl.

D. Eagan, Commr. L. & I.

On motion of Mr. Cowgill, Atty. General Cocke was chosen chairman pro tem.

The Secretary laid before the Board a communication of A. Doggett, Receiver, relative to the money now in the hands of J. H. Coleman of N. Y., asking that the Board order the said Coleman to turn over the money held or controlled by him and belonging to the Board to him as receiver in compliance with the Decree of N. Y. Court.

Also a communication of F. Vose joining Mr. Doggett in asking for the order and stating the impropriety of continuing Mr. Dickerson as Attorney for the Board in New York.

The communications were read, discussed and further consideration postponed until next meeting.

The petition of S. M. Gary alleging that a certain entry of land made by him on the 10th of May, 1873, was improperly designated by the maps and by such misrepre-

sentation the petitioner entered other lands than those intended and asks that such entry be cancelled and the purchase money refunded, was referred to the Comr. of Lands & Immigration, who reported that the Lands in question were properly designated on the plats and near the lands applied for and recommended that the prayer of the petition be denied.

Which was unanimously ordered by the Board.

The Comr. of Lands & Immigration reported on the communication of D. L. Yulee asking that certain lands along the line of the Florida Railroad running South from Waldo be withdrawn from market. Recommends that the lands not be withdrawn until the said Railroad has furnished the Trustees with a list of the Lands claimed by them which report together with letter of Mr. Yulee was referred to the Atty. General.

On motion the Board adjourned until 4 p. m.

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The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Mr. Eagan presented the following accounts:

|                                       |         |
|---------------------------------------|---------|
| Postage for the Land office.....      | \$37 25 |
| C. H. Walton—printing blanks, &c..... | 46 00   |
| Express charges in Land office.....   | 2 05    |
| E. V. C. Wofford copying.....         | 2 00    |
| S. L. Tibbitts—Stationery .....       | 13 25   |

Which were allowed and ordered to be paid by Treasurer.

After spending some time in discussing the different suits now pending before the Courts in which the Board is a party interested, and the best method looking towards a final adjustment of same the Board adjourned.

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Tallahassee, Fla., November 1st, 1873.

The Board met in the office of the Attorney Genl. when were present—

C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.

Wm. A. Cocke, Attorney General.

Chas. H. Foster, Treasurer.

Mr. Cocke acted as President and Mr. Cowgill as Secretary pro tem.

Mr. Cocke presented the Bill for \$30, of J. C. Townsend clerk of U. S. Court, for copying a Bill of complaint of E. C. Anderson and others Complainants vs. O. B. Hart and others Defendants.

Said copy of bill was for the use of the Attorney of the Trustees and was ordered to be paid.

Upon motion of Mr. Cowgill it was ordered,

That \$50 be paid to Mr. Cocke, Atty-Genl. to defray his expenses of a visit to Jacksonville upon business of the Trustees in the complaint of Anderson & others against the Trustees.

C. A. COWGILL, Secretary pro tem.

Tallahassee, Fla., November 21st, 1873.

The Board met in the office of the Atty. Genl. when were present:

C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller,

W. A. Cocke, Atty. Genl.

D. Eagan, Comr. of Lands & Immigration.

The following proposition of Myron L. Mickles was read and accepted.

To the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida—

Gentlemen

I respectfully propose to your honorable board that you withdraw from sale to other person or persons all the Internal Improvement land in Township 18 South of Range Thirty East consisting of six thousand nine hundred and forty nine & 50-100 (6949 50-100) acres, for the period of six months from the date hereof; and that I may be permitted to purchase all or a part of the same in such parcels as I may desire at the rate and price of \$1.25 per acre in current money of the United States.

Provided that within sixty days from the date hereof I shall purchase at least five hundred acres of the said tracts of land and pay for the same & in case of my failure to make such purchase and payment the withdrawal of said lands shall cease.

Very respectfully yours,

MYRON L. MICKLES.

(Signed)

Tallahassee, Fla., Nov. 21st, 1873.



Mr. Moses J. Taylor's request that his entry of the E $\frac{1}{2}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 36 T. 19 S. R. 29, E. be cancelled on the ground that the land had been sold and that he be allowed to use the money paid for the same (\$100) in payment for other land, was read and allowed.

Mr. Cowgill offered the following Resolution which was adopted.

Whereas on the 16th of May A. D. 1873, a Resolution of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund authorized & directed C. A. Cowgill Comptroller, to proceed to the City of New York & to demand, collect and receive & take into his possession all moneys, bonds & funds belonging to the Board & in pursuance of said resolution the said C. A. Cowgill while in New York transferred the said power to E. N. Dickerson with the direction that the said Dickerson should, as the Attorney for the Board institute the necessary proceedings to obtain said money from one Coleman, Receiver who has some \$17,000—in his possession & transmit said funds to the Treasurer of the Board, and said money not having been obtained by said Dickerson; now therefore

Be it Resolved that an order be given to Aristides Doggett, Receiver appointed by the Hon. W. B. Woods Judge of the U. S. Circuit Court for the 5th judicial circuit, in the case of Vose against the Trustees to receive the funds belonging to the Trustees now in the possession of the said Coleman and the said Aristides Doggett as Receiver, shall receipt to the Treasurer of the Trustees for the sum received and apply said money as is ordered by the decree of the said Judge Woods.

Resolved, That a copy of this preamble and resolution be sent to E. N. Dickinson & that said E. N. Dickinson is hereby instructed to aid the said A. Doggett, Receiver, in obtaining the said money.

The bill of Dyke & Son of \$12, for printing was presented and ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

D. EAGAN,  
Secretary.

Tallahassee, Fla., November 29, 1873.

The Board met in the office of the Attorney General when were present.

Chas. H. Foster, Treasurer.

W. A. Cocke, Attorney General.

C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.

The following Resolution was unanimously adopted, viz.

Resolved, That the Trustees allow W. A. Cocke, Attorney for the Trustees one hundred dollars as expenses incurred while in attendance upon the U. S. Circuit Court at Jacksonville in the case of Vose vs. Trustees, to be held in December.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

C. A. Cowgill,  
Secretary.

Tallahassee, Fla., December 10th, 1873.

The Board met in the office of Attorney General Cocke when were present.

C. H. Foster, Treas.

W. A. Cocke, Atty. Genl.

C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.

And Dennis Eagan, Comr. of Lands & Immigration.

Upon motion Mr. Foster was elected President pro tem.

It was moved and seconded that the decree recently made by the Hon. W. B. Woods Judge of the United States for the 5th Judicial Circuit be spread upon the Record.

Upon motion said decree was read.

The following communication from Messrs. Williams, Swann and Corley was then read—viz.

Tallahassee, Florida, Dec. 9th, 1873.

To the Honorable Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida—  
Gentlemen:—

By a decree recently made in the U. S. Circuit Court in the case of Francis Vose, et al., vs. The Trustees of the

Internal Improvement Fund et al. a copy of which you have in your possession, it appears that we, the agents of your Board for the sale of Lands are given further power and authority than was delegated to us by yourselves, particularly in being vested with discretionary power respecting the price of lands, and being held responsible for our acts directly to the Court as well as the Trustees. As the agents of your Board we are anxious so to discharge the duties imposed on us by your appointment and by the order of said Court as to secure your approval and advance the interests of the State and of the Internal Improvement Fund; and we request that you will, by some official action, designate to us the course necessary to pursue in order to accomplish that object. By reference to said decree you will see that you have the right to arrest our proceedings if in your opinion our act will jeopardize the interest of the State, but such proceeding on your part would not necessarily invalidate the acts complained of. Hence you will perceive that it is important to us and to you that some expression of your views should be made with regard to the policy which should regulate us in the exercise of our discretionary powers. To us, that we may not unwittingly offend—to you, lest the Board be bound by acts which the Trustees disapprove.

We especially desire to know the limits to which in your opinion, the price of lands may be reduced below the present fixed rates, either generally or in special cases without injury to the interests of the State. Also whether it is convenient or desirable that the monies received by us for lands be transmitted to you immediately upon the making of each sale, or whether the payments shall be made at stated periods, say monthly.

On account of the great scarcity of money at the present time, we respectfully submit to your Board the consideration of the propriety of selling lands for agricultural purposes, giving credit for a portion of the purchase money, say one third cash, and the remainder in installments of 9 and 18 months with interests on deferred payments. In sales of lands in tracts of 10,000 acres or upwards, the same advantage might be given without

risk to the fund even when the land is entered for the timber.

On these points, and in respect to all matters connected with our duties, we will gladly receive all such suggestions as you think proper to make, earnestly hoping and sincerely believing that we can by co-operation with you, benefit all parties interested and relieve the fund of a great portion of its indebtedness.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) WILLIAMS, SWANN & CORLEY,

And thereupon Mr. Cocke offered the following resolutions.

Resolved 1st. That under the decree made by the Hon. W. B. Woods Judge of the 5th Circuit of the U. S. Circuit Court, by which Williams, Swann & Corley are appointed agents for the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, the said agents consent to be governed by a scale of prices to be adopted by the Trustees unless in special instances, and then they agree first to consult the Trustees.

Resolved 2nd, That they agree to sell lands embraced in said agency upon such deferred payments as may be agreed upon by the Trustees; and that the said agents are to pay over monthly to the Treasurer of the Trustees all sums in their hands accruing from the sale of lands under the control of the said Trustees, and that a contract be reduced to writing and signed by the Presiding officer of the meeting of the Trustees, and Williams, Swann & Corley in carrying out the intents of these resolutions. Upon the adoption of the resolutions the vote was:

Nays—Messrs. Foster, Cowgill and Eagan.

Yeas—Mr. Cocke.

So the Resolutions were not adopted.

After further discussion the Board adjourned.

Attest:

D. EAGAN,  
Secretary.

4 I. I.

The following is a copy of the decree above mentioned.  
Francis Vose *et al*

vs.

The Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund *et al*.

This cause having been called in its regular order for hearing, the said complainant being represented by his solicitors of Record and the said Defendants by Attorney General Wm. A. Cocke by consent of the said parties, through their solicitors—

It is ordered adjudged and decreed.

(1) That for the purpose of producing from the lands of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida the amount of money necessary to pay the indebtedness established by the former Decree of this Court in said cause as having a lien upon the same, under the provisions of the Act of January 6th, 1855, known as the Internal Improvement Act, Marcellus A. Williams, Samuel A. Swann and Hugh A. Corley heretofore approved by the said The Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, to be their agents for the sale of the lands be authorized and empowered to sell the same in such amounts and at such prices as will in the exercise of their discretion most rapidly procure the requisite means to discharge the said indebtedness and free the said landed fund from the said lien—always responsible for all of their acts in the exercise of this discretionary power, not simply to the said Trustees but directly and at all times to this Court itself under this decree; to be enjoined at any time by its order, to be liable to immediate (punishment for) contempt if they or either of them shall violate such order, or anywise pervert or prostitute the trust thus reposed in them to any other end than the one contemplated by this decree; that end being not simply the enforcement of said decree to the legitimate payment of said indebtedness, but also the protection of the said landed fund for the benefit of the State of Florida and all persons who may be ultimately interested therein—

(2) It is therefore ordered adjudged and decreed that the said agents shall pay over to the said the Trustees the money that may be received by them from the sales of said lands as they shall be made reporting simultaneously with such payments to Aristides Doggett, Esq.,



the full and precise amount of the same, with a detailed statement of the lands which may have been sold to produce the said moneys: And it shall be thereupon the duty of the said Trustees to turn over the said moneys to the said Aristides Doggett, Esq., Receiver, monthly with a monthly statement of account as directed by the previous decree of this court. And it shall be the duty of the said Aristides Doggett, Esq., to submit monthly to the said Trustees a statement of the said detailed reports of sales as they shall be made to him, for the examination of the said Trustees whose right and duty it shall be to arrest the proceedings of said agents, if in their judgment they the said agents, are so exercising the powers invested in them by this decree as to jeopardize or in any wise sacrifice the interests of the State of Florida in the said Fund. And it shall be the duty of the said Receiver immediately upon such action by said Trustees to proceed in his character of Master and Examiner under previous decrees of this court to take testimony touching the issue so formed and to report the same, with his conclusions thereon, to either Judge of this Court instantan-  
 \* whether in term time or in vacation, that such action may be taken either to overrule such action of said Trustees or to confirm the same, and inflict such penalty upon the said Agents as may be deemed just and proper, who to that end are to be regarded in their discharge of the trust created in them by this decree, as the officers of this court.

(3) That it shall be the right of each and all persons who have made themselves parties to this cause, to lodge complaints with the said Master and Receiver against the said Agents in the form of a petition verified by affidavit and thereupon it shall become the duty of the said Master after giving proper notice to the said Agents, to take testimony upon issue formed in said petition reporting instantan the same with his conclusions thereon to any Judge of this Court whether in term time, or vacation, that action may be taken thereon as provided by the second clause of this decree.

(4.) That should it become necessary for this Court by either of its Judges, whether in term time or vacation, to discharge the said Agents, it shall be competent for this Court by either of its Judges to appoint another Agent or

other Agents, to carry out the provisions of this decree, and that such appointment shall be made at any time whether during a term of Court or in vacation upon suggestion of the Trustees and upon such notice as the said Chancellor may see proper to give to the parties to this suit if it be held necessary by him to give such notice.

(5.) That it shall be the duty of the said Agents to bring to the notice of the said Master all acts of encroachment or trespass upon the lands belonging to said Trust Fund by whomsoever committed; that it shall be the duty of said Master to proceed to take testimony in regard to such alleged encroachments or trespass after proper notice given to the person or persons charged with the same, and to report his conclusions on said testimony with the testimony itself to this Court instantler that either Judge thereof, whether in term time or vacation, may take such action in the premises as may be meet and proper.

(6.) That all legitimate expenditures incurred by the said Agents in the discharge of their Trust together with a reasonable compensation for the services so rendered by themselves, shall be deducted from the said moneys so to be realized from the sales of the said lands before the same shall be paid over to the said the Trustees as also shall legitimate expenditures be retained by the said the Trustees before turning over the same to the said, the Receiver. But all such charges shall be made to appear with the returns made by said Trustees to said Receiver and in distinctness in the monthly Reports of said Receiver shall be subject to exception by any party in interest and shall be in all cases subject to the final approval of the Court.

W. B. WOODS, Judge.

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Tallahassee, Fla., December 12th, 1873.

The Board met in the office of the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration when were present:

Chas. H. Foster, Treasurer.

C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.

Dennis Eagan, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

Mr. Eagan offered the following resolution which was unanimously adopted:

Whereas, The Decree made against the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, in the U. S. Circuit Court for the 5th Judicial Circuit held at Jacksonville on the 4th day of December 1873, purporting to be a Consent Decree and retaining the Receiver in the case of Vose against the Trustees, and appointing Messrs. Williams, Swann & Corley Agents of the Court to sell the Lands of the State at rates and terms to be fixed by them, ignoring the right of the Trustees to administer the Fund and placing the management of the same entirely out of the hands of the Trustees and in the hands and control of said Agents and other officers of the Court;

And Whereas, the said Decree was made without the knowledge or consent of any of the Trustees excepting the member who was acting as Attorney for the Trustees;

And Whereas, The said Decree is entirely different from the well known wishes of the Trustees, and contrary to what they had reason to expect from various consultations with their Attorney, and it appearing to us that the consent of our Attorney to said Decree admits the truth of all the allegations in the original Bill of Complaint, as far as we are concerned, which we do not and never intended to admit;

And Whereas, The said Decree makes the management of the sale of lands cumbersome and expensive and believing it will be for the best interest of the fund to have all restrictions concerning the management and sale of lands that are now imposed upon the Trustees removed; therefore;

Resolved, That the Attorney of the Trustees be directed to institute immediately the necessary proceedings to reopen the case in order that we may be heard by the Court, and that this as well as the former decree may be annulled.

Mr. Cowgill moved "that a copy of the Resolution be sent to Messrs. Williams, Swann & Corley, and also a copy to the Attorney of the Trustees—which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Cowgill then offered the following resolution which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That two hundred dollars be allowed Hon. W. A. Cocke for counsel as Attorney for the Trustees for services rendered to this date.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

D. EAGAN,  
Secretary.

Tallahassee, Fla., Dec. 29th, 1873.

The Board met in the office of the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

Present: C. H. Foster, Treasurer, Pres. pro tem.

C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.

D. Eagan, Comr. Lands & Immgr.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Mr. Cowgill offered the following Resolutions, which were unanimously adopted viz:—

Resolved, That the Secretary be authorized and required to employ R. B. Hilton, Esq., or some other suitable Lawyer as counsel for this Board in the case of Francis Vose et. al. vs. Harrison Reed Trustees et. al. with a special reference to the setting aside the recent decree granted by Judge Woods in said case as well as former decree restraining this Board from the management of the Fund &c.

Mr. Cowgill also offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted viz:

Resolved, That the Land provisionally granted to the Jacksonville and St. Augustine Railroad Company to aid in the construction of said road and which have been withheld from market be and the same are hereby restored to market and offered for sale and the lands undertaken to be conveyed or contracted to be conveyed to the Southern Inland and Navigation and Improvement Company are also restored to market and offered for sale. The said lands having been restored by virtue of a decree of the U. S. Circuit Court for the Northern Dist. of Florida.

Mr. Eagan presented the following accounts which were allowed and ordered to be paid:

|                                                   |        |
|---------------------------------------------------|--------|
| The Fla. Express (advertising) .....              | \$6 00 |
| A. H. Mundee (stationery) .....                   | 6 20   |
| J. E. Townsend, clerk U. S. Court (copying) ..... | 6 00   |
| E. R. Trafford (stamps) .....                     | 6 00   |
| A. H. Mundee (stationery) .....                   | 1 00   |
| E. R. Trafford (stamps) .....                     | 6 00   |

Attest:

D. EAGAN,  
Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Fla., Jany. 6, 1874.

The Trustees met at the office of the Comr. of Lands & Immigration.

Present: C. H. Foster, Treasurer, Pres. pro tem.  
C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.  
W. A. Cocke, Atty. Genl.  
D. Eagan, Comr. L. & I.

Mr. Eagan offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted, viz:

Resolved, That H. Bisbee, Jr., be and he is hereby appointed Attorney for the Trustees vice Hon. W. A. Cocke resigned as such Attorney.

Whereas a communication was received from Messrs. Williams & Swann requesting the cancellation of entry No. 7073, made Sept. 1871 for 1072 acres the said entry being made on their account in favor of Mary A. McDonald, and whereas the said Mary A. McDonald also requests the cancellation of said entry—

Be it Resolved, That the same be and is hereby cancelled and that the lands revert back to the Fund to be sold, and that credit is hereby given to Williams & Swann on their account for said amount of lands.

Attest:

D. EAGAN,  
Secretary.



Tallahassee, Fla., Jany. 14, 1874.

The Trustees met at the office of the Treasurer.

Present: C. H. Foster, Treasurer.  
C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.  
D. Eagan, Comr.

On motion of Mr. Cowgill the Secretary was instructed to request the late Atty. of the Trustees to turn over to him the copy of the bill of complaint in the case of Anderson vs. the Trustees, the Trustees having paid for said copy to be used in the case by their Attorney.

On motion of Mr. Eagan

The Treasurer was ordered to pay for the postage & stationery necessary for the use of the Salesman on regular bills to be certified to by the Salesman.

Attest:

D. EAGAN,  
Secretary.

Tallahassee, Jany. 19, 1874.

The Trustees met in the room of the Governor.

Present: His Excellency, O. B. Hart, Govr.  
C. A. Cowgill, Compt.  
C. H. Foster, Treasurer.  
D. Eagan, Comr, etc.

Mr. Eagan offered the following resolution which was unanimously adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That the resolution of July 14, 1873, appointing Messrs. Williams, Swann & Corley agents for the sale of Swamp and Internal Improvement lands be and the same is hereby rescinded, and the agency under the said resolution is hereby discontinued.

Mr. Cowgill offered the following resolution which was unanimously adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That the Treasurer of this Board be and he is hereby ordered to pay to H. Bisbee, Jr., as attorney of the Trustees the sum of one thousand dollars, a portion of said sum to be paid out by the said Attorney in defraying the necessary expenses of the Court in the cases now pending against the Trustees rendering a bill of such expenses to the Trustees, the balance to be used in payment of fees as attorney of the Trustees.

The salesman called the attention of the Trustees to a communication recd. from Messrs. Williams, Swann and Corley stating that they consider the Swamp & Internal Improvement Lands of the State under their exclusive control and management to be sold by them for the purposes stated in the Consent Decree recently made by Judge Woods and that as officers of the court under the said Decree they were alone authorized and empowered to make deeds for lands sold and requesting that the Trustees desist from making further sales.

The Treasurer also presented a communication from Messrs. Williams, Swann & Corley agents—remitting \$194, in payment of lands sold by them they retaining commissions & his answer acknowledging the receipt of the money and stating that the amount remitted was not enough to purchase the lands asked for and that the same was held subject to their order. He also presented a communication from A. Doggett, Esq., demanding the money held by him and remitted by Williams, Swann & Corley. After some discussion on the various letters, the matter was taken under advisement and the Board adjourned to meet tomorrow.

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January 20th, 1874.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: C. H. Foster, Treasurer.  
C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.  
D. Eagan, Comr. L. & I.

Mr. Eagan offered the following Resolution which was unanimously adopted:

Whereas a communication was presented by the Salesman from Messrs. Williams, Swann & Corley stating that they consider the entire Swamp and Internal Improvement Lands of the State under their exclusive control and management to be sold by them by virtue of a consent Decree of U. S. Court.

And Whereas, They claim that they are the only persons authorized to sell and make deeds to said lands and requests the Trustees to desist from making further sales of said lands.

And Whereas there is nothing in said consent decree prohibiting the Trustees from making sales of such lands.

Be it Resolved that the Salesman be and he is hereby directed and instructed to continue the sales of said lands as heretofore causing deeds to be made for same.

Whereas Messrs. Williams, Swann & Corley agents appointed by virtue of a Decree of the U. S. Court for the sales of lands belonging to the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida and as such agents are remitting money from time to time to the Treasurer of this Board in payment of Lands sold, and the remittance been in all cases insufficient to pay for the lands applied for at rates established by the Trustees. But fearing that a refusal on the part of the Treasurer to receive such amounts might be construed as violating the said consent Decree.

Be it Resolved That the Treasurer of the Trustees be and he is hereby directed to receive all such moneys as may be remitted to him by said agents and whenever said amounts is sufficient to pay for the Lands applied for to certify the same to the Salesman who will cause deeds to be made for such lands. But when the money remitted is insufficient to purchase the lands intended then to give only his memorandum receipt for such amounts turning the same over to A. Doggett, Esq., without deducting from such moneys anything for the expenses of this Board.

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Tallahassee, Fla., Jany. 22nd. 1874.

The Trustees met at the office of the Treasurer.

Present: C. H. Foster, Treasurer;

C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller;

D. Eagan, Comr. L. & I.

A communication was received from Mr. Corley, enclosing a list of entries which the parties entering wished cancelled and the purchase money refunded for the reason that the lands do not and never did belong to the Fund. All of the entries being in the Palatka Reserve excepting the entry of E. E. Ropes, which was never reported by the Surveyor General to the General Land Office and consequently not approved to the State.

Resolved, That the following being the entries embraced in said list be and the same is hereby cancelled and that the amt. of purchase money be refunded, viz—

Swamp entries No. 4504, 4509, 4777, made by C. S. Butler. Amount of purchase money \$128.90.

Swamp entries 4788, 4812. Made by Hart and Monroe, purchase money \$39.60.

Swamp entries 1923, 2424, 2644, made by Norman McRae. Amount of purchase money, \$159.88.

Swamp entry No. 4786, made by N. H. Moragne, amount purchase money \$18.67.

Swamp entry No. 6176, made by E. E. Ropes, amount of purchase money \$50.00.

Ordered that the above amount, \$397.03, as purchase money be paid to Hugh A. Corley, as agent for the parties above named.

Swamp entry No. 1980 made by Reid Teasdale, Mar. 1, 1867, be cancelled and the amount of \$154.49 be refunded to Mess. Reid & Teasdale or their order.

Mr. Cowgill offered the following resolution which was unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That Aristides Doggett, Esq., Receiver, be authorized and directed to collect any money in the hands of Moses Taylor of New York belonging to this Board, not heretofore paid by said Taylor to James H. Coleman Receiver.

Mr. Cowgill presented the following letter which was read and ordered spread on the minutes.

New York, Jany. 8, 1874.

My Dear Sir:

I enclose herewith two bonds which are surrendered and paid for at the rate of \$200 a bond out of the funds in New York, the balance, which has been distributed to Mr. Vose, according to an order entered by the consent of all parties in the proceeding.

Yours truly,

EDN. N. DICKERSON.

To

Dr. C. A. COWGILL,  
Comptroller, &c.  
Tallahassee, Fla.

The bonds mentioned in the above letter were bonds of the Florida Rail Road Company No. 1087 & 1088, hav-

ing fifty-five coupons attach to each bond, all of which were duly cancelled and deposited with the Treasurer.

Attest:

D. EAGAN,  
Secretary.

Tallahassee, Fla., Feby. 12, 1874.

The Trustees met at the office of the Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

Present: C. H. Foster, Treasurer, Pres. pro tem.  
C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.  
W. A. Cocke, Atty. General.  
D. Eagan, Comr. L. & I.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Secretary laid before the Trustees a concurrent resolution of the Legislature asking a reduction in the price of lands belonging to the Fund which read and taken under advisement.

The Secretary laid before the Trustees the following proposition of M. J. Taylor for the purchase of lands viz:

Tallahassee, Fla., Feby. 12, 1874.

Trustees I. I. Fund State of Florida.

Gentlemen:—

I desire to purchase 15000 acres or upwards of Swamp lands belonging to the I. I. Fund at a price not to exceed fifty cents per acre, the land to be selected and the money to be paid within the next 30 days, all of the lands to be contiguous and in a body.

Respectfully,

MOSES J. TAYLOR, JR.

On motion of Mr. Eagan the above proposition was accepted by an unanimous vote.

On motion of Mr. Cowgill 200 copies of the scale of prices of swamp land were ordered printed for the use of Salesman.

Mr. Eagan presented the following accounts which were allowed and the Treasurer ordered to pay the same viz:—

|                                                  |         |
|--------------------------------------------------|---------|
| C. H. Walton printing notice of return of State  |         |
| lands to market .....                            | \$20 00 |
| C. H. Walton printing receipts for Treasurer.... | 15 00   |

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\$35 00



A petition of Jas. B. Storn asking that certain lands belonging to the Fund be deeded to him in consideration of completing a certain ditch which he has undertaking and which will reclaim adjoining lands belonging to the State, which was referred to the Atty. General.

The Trustees adjourned.

Attest:

D. EAGAN,  
Secty.

Tallahassee, Fla., Feby. 27, 1874.

The Trustees met at the office of the Comr. of Lands & Immigration.

Present: C. H. Foster, Treasurer, Pres. pro tem.  
C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.  
W. A. Cocke, Atty. General.  
D. Eagan, Comr. L. & I.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The proposition of Mr. J. C. Randall to deepen and widen the Wekiva River from its mouth to Clay Springs so as to admit and float boats drawn two and a half feet of water, thereby relieving a vast quantity of lands from overflow, was read and further consideration postponed.

Mr. Cowgill presented an account for one hundred and fifty dollars for expenses incurred in June last in visiting New York, and attending to business of the Trustees, which was allowed and the Treasurer ordered to pay the same.

Mr. Eagan presented an account for eighteen dollars, for expenses incurred in visiting Jacksonville in January last on business of the Trustees, which was allowed and the Treasurer ordered to pay the same.

Mr. Eagan tendered his resignation as Secretary of the Trustees to take effect from and after the 1st of March, which was accepted and C. A. Cowgill was chosen as Secretary.

On motion of Mr. Cowgill, it was ordered that hereafter the regular meetings of the Trustees shall be held in the office of the Comr. of Lands & Immigration.

Mr. Gleason presented a proposition for the purchase

of certain lands lying west of the Apalachicola river at certain rates, which was read and Mr. Gleason was requested to prepare a contract embodying his proposition and submit the same to the Trustees at 10 a. m. tomorrow.

On motion the Trustees adjourned to meet at 10 a. m. tomorrow.

Attest:

D. EAGAN,  
Secretary.

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February 28th, 1874.

No meeting of the Board.

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Tallahassee, Florida, March 3, 1874.

The Trustees met in the office of the Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

Present: C. H. Foster, Treasurer.

D. Eagan, C. L. & I.

C. A. Cowgill, Compt.

After some discussion the following agreement was made with Wm. H. Gleason by a unanimous vote.

Memorandum of an agreement entered into this third day of March A. D. 1874 between the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida & W. H. Gleason of the County of Dade & State aforesaid.

The said Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund agrees with the said W. H. Gleason that they will sell & convey unto him or such party or parties as he may in writing order or direct the same to be conveyed, any or all of the Lands belonging to the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, situated West of the Apalachicola River in said State, upon the following terms; to wit: In quantities of not less than fifty thousand acres at fifty-five cents per acre, one hundred thousand acres at fifty cents per acre, two hundred & fifty thousand acres at forty-five cents per acre, five hundred thousand acres at forty cents per acre, or all of the Lands West of the Apalachicola river being about one million of acres at

twenty-five cents per acre, the said lands to be taken in one body as near each other as possible—

Provided however that any purchase made under the provisions of this contract must be made within one year from the date hereof.

And it is further agreed that should the said Wm. H. Gleason purchase any of the smaller quantities above specified and afterwards purchase additional lands amounting together with those first purchased to one of the larger quantities above specified, in that case the said Gleason shall be requested to pay on his last purchase only the balance due or that would have become due had all of the lands been bought at one time, it being the meaning & intent of this agreement that for all lands purchased by & conveyed to the said Gleason by virtue hereof, he shall pay at the rates & prices hereinbefore specified—

Provided, further, That nothing in this contract shall be construed to prevent the Board from continuing the sale of land West of the Apalachicola River at such prices & in such amounts as they may deem expedient.

In witness whereof we the undersigned Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund and the said W. H. Gleason have hereunto set our hands and seals the day & year above written.

The proposition submitted by Mr. J. C. Randall to deepen the Wekiva River & Clay Run to Clay Springs provided a grant of Land comprising two thirds of the sections on either side of said River & run be given to him was taken up for consideration and after some discussion the following resolution was unanimously adopted.

Resolved, that while we recognize the importance of rendering streams navigable thereby promoting the drainage of the swamp lands & opening up the country to settlement, yet in view of the complications surrounding our action as Trustees by the various decrees of the U. S. Circuit Court for the Northern District of Florida we do not deem it expedient to enter into a contract of the kind proposed at the present time.

The Board adjourned to meet on the first Tuesday in April the regular day of meeting.

Attest:

C. A. COWGILL,  
Secretary.

A copy of the last resolution was furnished to Mr. Randall, March 4 1874.

Tallahassee, Florida, April 4th, 1874.

The Trustees met upon call in the Governor's room.

Present: Gov. M. L. Stearns.

W. A. Cocke, Atty. Genl.

C. H. Foster, Treas.

C. A. Cowgill, Compt.

C. H. Foster announced the death of Gov. O. B. Hart and moved that Gov. M. L. Stearns be chosen President of the Board, which was unanimously carried.

The minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

The Secretary presented a communication from T. W. Osborn President of The Great Southern Railway Company, dated March 18th and received & filed March 19, 1874, transmitting a map or plan showing the route or line of said railway & its branches.

The map was accepted and ordered to be placed in the office of the Comr. of Lands & Immigration.

Mr. Robert H. Gamble a former member of the Board presented an account for Lawyer fees paid by him as a member when charged with contempt of the U. S. District Court.

He was requested to present an account properly made out with the vouchers at the next meeting.

A communication was received from Mr. M. L. Mickles in reference to the irregular manner in which coupons received for lands had been cancelled by the late Treasurer.

The following Resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Treasurer be directed to communicate with Mr. Adams late Treasurer and request from him a full statement of his accounts as late Treasurer & a delivery of all books & papers in his possession belonging to said office.

A letter from Mess. Swann, Williams & Corley was presented by the Secretary in which they state that they had offered the swamp and overflowed lands to various parties at certain prices, and requested the opinion of the Trustees concerning their action. After some discussion the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved that the Secretary be directed to acknowledge the receipt of the letter from Mess. Williams, Swann & Corley in reference to the sale of lands in large tracts and to refer them to the decree made by Judge Woods Dec. 4, 1873, by which it appears they are authorized and empowered to sell the same and affix the prices and to inform them that the Trustees feel no disposition to interfere with their action under said decree as long as it continues in force. \* \* \*

Attest:

G. A. COWGILL,  
Secretary.

\* \* \* The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Trustees hold regular meetings on the first Tuesday in every month in the office of Commissioner of Lands & Immigration at 10 o'clock a. m.

C. A. COWGILL,  
Secretary.

Tallahassee, Monday May 11th, 1874.

The Trustees met upon call in the office of the Commissioner of Lands.

Present: Wm. A. Cocke, Atty. Genl.

C. H. Foster, Treas.

Dennis Eagan, C. of L. & I.

C. A. Cowgill, Compt.

Wm. A. Cocke acted as chairman.

The Treasurer presented a letter from J. S. Adams, written in response to his letter of inquiry concerning books & papers belonging to the Treasurer's office, as follows:

5 I. I.



Jacksonville, Apl. 17, '74.

Hon. Chas. H. Foster,  
State Treasurer.

Sir:

I have the honor in reply to your favor requesting the return of any books or papers belonging to the Trustees of In. Imp. Fund, and that I furnish a statement of any of my accounts: to say,

First—That the papers, books & documents appertaining to the office of Treasurer of the In. Imp. Fund were turned over by me to my successor in office Hon. Sam T. Day soon after his accession.

Second—My accounts as Treasurer were examined, audited, approved and allowed by the Trustees, who alone were legally authorized so to do.

The statements and allowance of those accounts were all made matters of record and stood recorded in the Book of Records of the Board when I delivered the same to Treasurer Day.

I have the honor to be,

Yrs. respectfully,

(Signed)

J. S. ADAMS,

The following communication was received, F. Vose, read, discussed & further consideration postponed until a full meeting of the Board is held:

Tallahassee, May 3, '74.

To the Trustees of the

Int Imp. Fund:

In the purpose of promoting the sales and settlement of the State lands I beg to propose the following suggestions, viz:

1st. That further steps be taken to prevent trespassing.

2nd. That Agents to aid in the objects above mentioned be appointed at Jacksonville, Pensacola, and New York subject to the restriction of the Decree of Dec. 4, '73.

3rd. That the compensation of said agents shall be a commission upon sales and as sales are made deeds to be furnished to the Agents upon receipt of the purchase money at proper prices, less a proper allowance for commissions.

It appears that every bona fide interest in the state renders it imperative upon the Trustees to take action

so far as they are able on the above suggestions & it is hardly reasonable to suppose that the Court which has been compelled to interpose to prevent the fraud neglect and waste heretofore going on can abandon the matter until the complications which have arisen shall be cleared up and the over due obligations against the Fund are paid off.

I remain respectfully,  
Yr. obt. servt,  
F. VOSE.

The Board then adjourned.  
C. A. COWGILL,  
Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Fla., May 21, 1874.

The Trustees met upon call in the office of the Governor.

Present: M. L. Stearns, Gov.  
C. H. Foster, Treas.  
D. Eagan, C. of L. & I.  
C. A. Cowgill, Compt.

Minutes of last meeting were read & approved.

A communication was received from F. Vose in which he requested that the two bonds purchased by E. M. Dickerson from the funds in N. York, arising from the sale of the Florida R. R. might be surrendered to him.

Which was read, considered & the Secretary was directed to inform Mr. Vose that the bonds had been received from Mr. Dickerson & had been cancelled & would be retained by the Trustees.

A letter from James E. Broome was presented & read as follows:

10 Wall St.  
N. York, April 4, 1874.

To the Trustees of the I. I. F. of Fla.

Gentlemen:

I believe that I can now sell, if you will so authorize me about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 2,000,000 acres of your swamp & overflowed land to an English party, with whom I am in correspondence and for a price that will net you about 28 cents per acre. This is not all cash but funds which I

have no doubt would be accepted by Mr. Vose for his entire debt and thus relieve the fund. If you will authorize such a sale receiving Mr. Vose's debt and his bonds or either in payment, I will make the opening negotiation at once, both with my party and with Mr. Vose and think it can be closed by about the first of July. It would perhaps be better to include the Bonds.

Should you decide to sell a larger amount of your lands receiving in payment a part cash, part acceptances on short time on London and balance in 7 per cent. gold bearing bonds issued by a strong Iron Company in London and secured by lien on the Land, I might perhaps place some 2,000,000 acres additional and be able to satisfy you that the securities are good with the interest payable semi annually.

Should you think favorably of this suggestion please forward me your authority for me to take and pay for on the delivery of good and sufficient title deeds whatever amount of land you may elect to sell giving me the option for six months or less, or more as you may think proper.

My location here and my acquaintance with all parts of the State of Florida gives me great advantages in the way of selling lands and in addition to this my access to European parties is very valuable. Please favor me with an early reply and oblige.

Yr. obedient servant,  
JAMES E. BROOME.

P. S.

Should you conclude to do anything in this matter please say nothing about it as there are plenty of people who would take the trouble to talk down Florida Lands and defeat a sale.

The Secretary was directed to answer Mr. Broome, that the Trustees would sell 1,000,000 acres or more of lands at 28 cents net per acre, the lands to be selected in tracts of 250,000 acres lying as nearly contiguous as possible.

That at present we could only sell for cash, but if a settlement with Mr. Vose could be effected then we might sell upon credit, and that any arrangement by which Mr. Vose's claims would be settled would be entirely satisfactory to the Trustees.

A communication from G. E. Hanes of Pilatka was received in which he requests that \$219.95, amount paid by him for Lot No. 1, S. 5 T. 10 S. R. 27, E. containing 161.44-100 acres purchased 15th July 1858, may be refunded as said land was in the military reservation around Palatka & did not & does not belong to the Trustees, but belongs to the United States & is subject to homestead entry.

This statement being in accordance with the facts, The Treasurer was directed to pay to George E. Hanes the sum of \$219.95 by a unanimous vote.

B. F. Roberts of Palatka Attorney for Mrs. Alvileta Jane Wells made an application that \$62.41 be refunded being the purchase money for the lot numbered 6 of S. 36, T. 10 S. R. 26 E. containing 49.93-100 acres which was paid by D. H. Campbell, March 8, 1866, for said lot, and said lot was never owned by the Trustees but was included in the military reservation & is now subject to homestead entry under the U. S. Laws.

It was unanimously ordered that the Treasurer refund to Mrs. A. J. Wells or her Attorney the said sum of \$62.41 cents.

Hon. R. H. Gamble late Comptroller presented a communication in which he requests that \$120 may be paid him, expenses incurred in answering a charge of contempt of Court by an order or decree of U. S. Court, sitting at Jacksonville Decr. 1872 and

It was unanimously ordered that the Treasurer pay \$120 to R. H. Gamble for expenses incurred in relieving himself of a charge of contempt by an order of the U. S. Circuit Court at Jacksonville Dec. 1872.

An account was presented from Samuel T. Day late Treasurer of the Trustees for one month services as Treasurer from April 4th, 1872, & the following resolution unanimously adopted:—

Resolved that the Treasurer be directed to pay the account, upon satisfactory evidence being presented that it has never been paid.

Michael Plant requested that an entry of land made by him of the S $\frac{1}{2}$  of the N. W. 1-4 of Sect. 28 in T. 1 South of Range 5 E. be cancelled as he did not intend to make said entry, the land being worthless & that he be allowed to purchase in lieu thereof the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 6,

and N. E. 1-4 of N. W. 1-4 of Sect. 7, T. 2 S. of R 5, E. and it was

Ordered that the cancellation of the former entry be allowed.

Ada M. Tibbetts applied for the cancellation of her purchase of the E. half of the S. E. q & the S. E. qr of the N. W. 1-4 of Sect. 4 T. 20 S. of R. 31 E. containing 126.83 acres, made May 13, 1872, on the ground that the entry was not the piece of land she designed to enter and on motion

The cancellation was unanimously ordered to be made.

J. H. Durkee sheriff of Duval County presented bills amounting to \$317.90 for services in the case of State of Florida vs. the J. P. & M. R. R. Co. & Daniel P. Holland, which was read and further consideration postponed.

The following preamble & Resolution was presented by the Commissioner of Land & Immigration and unanimously adopted.

Whereas serious depredations are being committed upon the public lands of the Int. Imp. Fund, and creditors of the fund as well as other citizens have requested the Trustees to take further actions to prevent the losses arising thereby, and the Legislature has authorized the Governor to appoint one or more timber agents for the protection of the public lands, said agents to receive such compensation as may be allowed by the Trustees of the I. I. Fund & the Board of Education, And Whereas the Governor in compliance with the act, entitled "An Act to amend an act entitled an act to prevent & punish Trespass upon the public Lands of this State approved Jany 12, 1866," approved February 18, 1874 has appointed Leonard G. Dennis Trustee agent  
Therefore

Resolved

That the Commissioner of Lands & Immigration be instructed to employ the said L. G. Dennis Timber Agent to work under his direction to prevent & punish trespass upon the lands belonging to the I. I. Fund and that the said agent be allowed his actual necessary expenses to be paid monthly on the approval of the Board and such



compensation as the Trustees may hereafter designate.  
The Board adjourned until the regular meeting day.

C. A. COWGILL,  
Secretary.

[The following appears on page 88 of Record Book of the Trustees, opposite reference in minutes of May 21, 1874, to communication from F. Vose.]

Tallahassee, Fla., May 22, 1874.

Sir:—

I am directed by the Trustees to say that the two Florida R. R. bonds were sent to us by E. N. Dickerson Esq., who informed us that they were purchased at the rate of \$200 a bond out of the fund in New York before it was distributed to you and that the bonds are cancelled and are in the possession of the Treasurer as cancelled bonds & we decline to accede to your request that they be delivered to you.

Very respectfully,

C. A. COWGILL,  
Secy.

F. Vose, Esq.  
3 W. Cedar St., Boston.

[The following appears on page 90 of Record Book of the Trustees, opposite reference in minutes of May 21, 1874, to communication from James E. Broome.]

Tallahassee, Fla., May 22, 1874.

Sir:—

I am directed by the Trustees of the Int. Impt. Fund to inform you in answer to your letter of April 4th that they will sell 1,000,000 or more acres of swamp and overflowed lands at 28 cents per acre net (clear of all charges for commissions, expenses of sale etc.) the lands to be selected in tracts of not less than 250,000 acres, each purchase to include all the lands owned by the Fund within the area of the tract.

The Trustees can not sell Lands for "aught else than current money of the United States" under Judge

Woods decree of Dec. 6th 1870, but if any arrangement could be made with Mr. Vose by which his claim would be settled, the Trustees will cheerfully give any assistance in their power to effect so desirable a result, and then the decrees would be annulled & the Trustees could entertain propositions for a sale upon credit.

Mr. Vose left Florida for the North a few days ago.

Very respectfully,  
C. A. COWGILL,

Secy.

Hon. James E. Broome,  
10<sup>th</sup> Wall St. N. Y.

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Wednesday July 15, 1874.

The Trustees met in the Executive chamber upon the call of the Governor.

Present: M. L. Stearns, Governor.  
D. Eagan, C. of L. & I.  
Wm. A. Cocke, Atty. Genl.  
C. A. Cowgill, Compt.

The Secretary, presented a communication from E. A. Studwell asking that 5000 acres of land be given to him, for the purpose of settling a colony of 3 or 400 Italians, said land to be deeded to the immigrants before they leave N. York, & it was

Resolved, That Mr. Studwell's communication be acknowledged & that he be informed that under the peculiar legal complications surrounding the Trustees they have no power to make such a grant of land.

The Secretary presented a communication from J. E. Broome dated June 5th 1874 informing the Trustees that he had sold 1,000,000 acres of land at 30 cents, & requesting an answer by telegram containing a confirmation of said sale and the Secretary reported that upon receiving the above letter he had consulted with a majority of the members of the Board & in accordance with their opinion had telegraphed an acceptance of the proposition & had also written at length to Mr. Broome on June 10th, but had received no reply to said telegram & letter.

D. N. H. Moragne of Palatka requests from the Trustees the cancellation of an entry of 30.70-100 acres of land being lots No. 3 & 8 of Sect. 29 T. 10, R. 27 S. & E—made by John C. McMillan & the refunding to him of the sum of \$41.78 the amount paid for said land. This land being part of the military reservation around Palatka and was never patented to the State, and was purchased by said Moragne from McMillan as was shown by the deed of purchaser accompanying the application. On motion the application was referred to the Attorney General for investigation and report.

An account of F. B. Knapp, Dept. Clerk of the Circuit Court of Duval Co. for \$34.00, fees in the case of the State of Florida & the Trustees of the I. I. F. vs. J. P. & M. R. R. Co. was presented & allowed.

An account of L. G. Dennis Timber Agent for traveling expenses for the month of June for \$118 was allowed.

Mr. Bisbee Attorney for the Board requested the payment of \$250 for services in the several suits in the State & Federal Courts to which the Trustees are parties and it was

• Resolved That the Treasurer pay Mr. Bisbee \$250—and that Mr. Bisbee be requested to give an itemized statement of the expenditures incurred by him on behalf of the Board in prosecuting these suits.

Upon the above Resolution all the Trustees voted aye except Mr. Cocke who declined to vote.

The following Resolution was adopted by an unanimous vote.

Resolved That C. A. Cowgill Secretary be requested to make a full and complete index of the proceedings of the Trustees of the I. I. Fund from their organization to the present time, entering the same in a suitable book to be procured for that purpose and also to ascertain the probable cost of copying & printing the entire records with the index.

The Board then adjourned.

C. A. COWGILL, Secretary.

Saturday July 25th, 1874.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber upon call of the Governor.

Present: M. L. Stearns, Gov.  
C. H. Foster, Treas.  
C. A. Cowgill, Secretary.

Mess. Swann & Corley appeared before the Board and gave an account of the progress of their efforts to sell lands in large tracts.

The following bills were allowed & Treasurer directed to pay them, viz:—

|                                                                     |         |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| To Boag & Bryan for index book & lettering minute books .....       | \$19 00 |
| To J. Townsend Clk of U. S. Circuit Court for copy of decrees ..... | 8 00    |
| C. A. Cowgill cost paid for Telegrams .....                         | 1 50    |
|                                                                     | <hr/>   |
|                                                                     | \$28 50 |

To C. H. Foster, Treas.  
1874, July 22d.

For expenses incurred in the month of April 1874 during trip to Jacksonville with Fla. Cen. R. R. bonds to testify before the State Court in case of State & Trustees I. I. Fund vs. J. P. & M. R. R. Co. & Fla. Cen. \$9.50.

C. A. COWGILL,  
Secretary.

Tallahassee, August 26, 1874.

The Board met in the Executive Chamber upon the call of the Governor.

Present: M. L. Stearns, Governor.  
Wm. A. Cocke, Atty. Genl.  
C. A. Cowgill, Compt.

A communication was presented from Albert Hyer Presdt. Pen. & Louisville R. R. Co. informing the Trustees that said Company had accepted the provisions of the Internal Improvement Act of Jay 3, 1855, which was read and directed to be filed.

A communication from Messrs. Williams, Swann & Corley, was presented giving an account of their action

in Washington for the purpose of having the selected swamp and overflowed lands patented to the State, with a copy of a bill introduced in the House of Reps designed to facilitate such action, which was read and ordered to be filed.

John H. Roler assignee of Panchita Miot applied for the cancellation of an entry of the S. E. Quarter of the northwest quarter of Sect. 5 in Township Ten, S. of R. 27 E., containing 40.09-100 and the return of fifty dollars and eleven cents the purchase money, said land having never been patented to the State being in the Military reservation around Palatka & having been recently allotted by the U. States as a homestead; Whereupon

It was resolved that the entry be cancelled & the money be refunded to J. H. Roler assignee of Panchite Miot when evidence is produced that said piece of land has been disposed of by the United States.

M. L. Stearns applied for the cancellation of an entry of land, viz: the S. W. qr of the S. W. qr of Sect. 26 & the N. E. qr of the N. E. qr. of Sect. 34 of T. 2, N. of R. 5 W., containing 79.87-100 acres & the refunding of the purchase money, and having presented satisfactory evidence that the entry was made in his name and the purchase money paid by himself only for the benefit of a poor colored man and that the numbers were furnished to this colored man by a neighbor, the said Stearns knowing nothing about them, and when the land came to be surveyed it was found that the colored man had been erroneously informed & that the land purchased did not cover the home erected & the ground cultivated by the colored person & that consequently the said person has never occupied the land purchased & it remains on the hands of the said Stearns having been thus purchased by mistake, it was therefore

Unanimous:~

Resolved, That the entry of the above described land by M. L. Stearns be cancelled & that the Treasurer be directed to refund to him the sum of \$99.84 purchase money of the said land.

C. A. Cowgill presented the index book for the inspection of the Trustees, it being nearly completed & after it was examined the following resolution was unanimously adopted.



Resolved, That the Treasurer be directed to pay to C. A. Cowgill the sum of two hundred dollars as part payment for work done in making Index book to the minutes of the Trustees under the resolution of July 15th—

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the resolution adopted May 16th 1873, reducing the salaries of the Secretary and Treasurer be the same is hereby rescinded & and that the Treasurer is hereby authorized and directed to pay to the persons holding or who may have held these offices at the former rate of \$400 to the Secretary and \$600 to the Treasurer per annum from the 1st day of June 1873.

The following resolution was also unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That C. A. Cowgill Comptroller of the State of Florida & a member of this Board of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of this State, is hereby directed to demand & receive from Moses Taylor of New York late agent of this Board or other person or persons having the same in their possession all bonds of the Florida railroad which were guaranteed by the Trustees of the I. I. Fund & which have been purchased by the Funds arising from the sale of the said road.

The following preamble and resolution were unanimously adopted.

Whereas the Attorney of this Board is disqualified from acting in the case of Vose vs. H. Reed & others Trustees of I. I. F, therefore be it resolved

That the Governor and Attorney General are appointed a committee to employ counsel & take such steps as may be necessary to open the decrees of the Circuit Court of the U. S. for the Northern District of Florida in the above mentioned case with a view of relieving the Board from the embarrassments of said decrees.

C. A. COWGILL,  
Secretary.

Aug. 26th.

Also a bill of L. G. Dennis Timber Agent for \$56.00 traveling expenses was allowed.

Attest:

C. A. COWGILL, Secy.

Tallahassee, October 19, 1874.

The Board met in the Executive Chamber upon the call of the Governor.

Present: Gov. M. L. Stearns.  
W. A. Cocke, Atty. Gen.  
D. Eagan, C. of L. & I.  
C. A. Cowgill, Compt.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

A communication was received from E. M. Cheney remonstrating in the name of the Jacksonville Pensacola & Mobile R. R. Co. against any disposition of lands lying west of the Apalachicola river that would deprive said road of them, as it was confidently expected that the road would soon be building west of said River, which was read.

A communication from Messrs. Williams, Swann & Corley dated Sept. 28th was presented in which the issue of land certificates or floats of 160 acres or less to the amount of 2,000,000 acres was urged, said certificates to be sold at the rate of 30 to 35 cents per acre with a deduction of 10 per cent as commission to Mess. W. S. & Corley, and Mr. Swann appeared before the Board and fully detailed the advantages which he thought would arise from such sale.

Whereupon the following resolution was adopted.

Resolved, That it is not deemed expedient to issue certificates for 160 acres of land at the present time, at the prices proposed in the proposition of Messrs. Williams, Swann & Corley.

Judge P. W. White requested permission by letter, to use certain marl on the Chipola River upon his orange grove said marl being upon the lands of the I. I. Fund, whereupon

The Secretary was directed to inform Judge White that he could use as much of the said marl as he might desire upon his own grove.

A bill for \$190.50 cents expenses as traveling agent for the months of August & September was allowed to L. G. Dennis, & the Treasurer directed to pay the same.

C. A. COWGILL, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Saturday Nov. 14th.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber upon call of the Governor.

Present: Gov. M. L. Stearns.  
Treas. C. H. Foster.  
Atty. Genl. W. A. Cocke.  
Compt. C. A. Cowgill.

A communication was received from D. P. Holland President of the Pease Creek I & N Co asking for an extension of two years to complete their contract, which was read & further consideration postponed.

A letter was received from E. M. Cheney which was read as follows:

Tallahassee, Fla.

Nov. 13, '74.

Hon. C. A. Cowgill,  
Secretary Board Trustees.  
Int. Imp. Fund,

Sir:—

I desire to purchase of your Board four hundred thousand acres of land (with the privilege of making it six hundred thousand) in warrants or floats, these floats to be for 80, 160 and 640 acres to be located wherever the purchaser may select. In this amount of floats I would and hereby offer thirty seven and a half cents ( $37\frac{1}{2}$ ) per acre, the whole amount payable in cash within thirty days from the time this proposition shall be accepted and the floats only to be delivered as paid for.

Requesting the favor of an early answer (as I am compelled to leave for home tomorrow) I am

Yours respectfully,

E. M. CHENEY.

Whereupon,

The following resolution was unanimously adopted.

Resolved

That the proposition of Mr. Cheney be accepted & that the Salesman be instructed to prepare the necessary certificates for the sale of the land & to deliver said certificates in floats for 400,000 acres of land to Mr. Cheney upon the payment of  $37\frac{1}{2}$  cents per acre.

A communication was received from Messrs. Williams,

Swann & Corley again urging the sale of floats, which was read.

Whereupon the Secretary was directed to inform Messrs. Williams, Swann & Corley that they would sell floats in a lot comprising 250,000 acres of land at 37½ cents per acre net, no reduction for commission or expenses, said floats to be made for 80, 160 & 640 acres.

A letter was received from James E. Broome in which he desired the Board to sell 1,000,000 of acres of land in lots of 25,000 acres for 28 cts and the Secretary was directed to answer that they would sell 1,000,000 acres of land in parcels of 100,000 acres.

The Secretary announced that he had received from Moses Taylor of N. York 198 bonds of the Florida R. R. Co. indorsed by the Trustees, and that Mr. Taylor says, "These 198 bonds together with 59 bonds delivered by me to the Trustees on 21st Sept. 1867 make up the whole number of bonds purchased by me for the fund."

Whereupon it was unanimously

Resolved that the Secretary & Treasurer prepare a list of these bonds & coupons & report to the Board at its next regular meeting.

It was unanimously

Resolved, That the Treasurer be directed to pay to H. Bisbee, Jr., two hundred dollars as fee to him as counsel representing the Board and to defray expenses of suit in Supreme Court of U. S.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:  
Resolved

That the resolution adopted Aug. 26, 1874 authorizing the Governor & Attorney General to employ counsel to represent the Board in the suit of F. Vose vs. H. Reed & al. be rescinded, and that the Governor be authorized & requested to take such measures as he may deem best to protect the interests of the Fund in reference to the suit of F. Vose vs. H. Reed & al, by the employment of counsel or otherwise.

C. A. COWGILL, Secretary.

Decr. 5, 1874.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber upon call of the Governor.

Present: M. L. Stearns, Gov.  
C. H. Foster, Treas.  
W. A. Cocke, Atty. Genl.  
C. A. Cowgill, Compt.

It was resolved that fifty dollars be appropriated to defray the expenses of Wm. A. Cocke & as counsel fees in attendance upon the circuit court for the North District of Florida at the present session.

C. A. COWGILL,  
Compt.  
Secretary of B.

Dec. 29th 1874.

The Board met in the Executive Chamber upon the call of the Governor.

Present: M. L. Stearns, Gov.  
W. A. Cocke, Atty. Gen.  
C. H. Foster, Treas.  
D. Eagan, C. L. & I.  
C. A. Cowgill, Compt.

The following accounts were presented and allowed.

To M. L. Stearns, expenses incurred for telegrams & traveling on business of the Board since April 1st, \$85.00.

To George McGinly, hotel bill for Trustees in December when they met in Jacksonville to consult concerning the case of F. Vose vs. H. Reed et al. 42.00.

To L. G. Dennis, agent, expenses during the months of October & November. 150.00.

A communication was received from Ed. Hopkins, Presdt. of the Lake Harney and Indian River Tram Road Co. asking for a grant of land to aid in building a railroad from Lake Harney to Indian River, which was read & consideration postponed.

C. A. COWGILL,  
Secretary.



January 20th, 1875.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber upon the call of the Governor.

Present all the members.

A bill was presented by L. G. Dennis Timber Agent for services from April 10, 1874 to January 10, 1875, 9 months at \$100 per month which was read and the further consideration postponed.

H. Bisbee, Jr., presented his itemized account with the Trustees as Atty which was read & consideration postponed.

Edward Hopkins Presdt. of the Lake Harney & Indian River Tram Road Co. appeared before the Board & requested a grant of land to aid in the construction of said road & he was requested to put his proposition in writing.

A communication was received from Messrs. Williams, Swann & Corley again urging the issue and sale of floats at 32 cts net per acre which was read discussed and the Secretary was directed to inform them that the Board adhered to the determination as expressed in the minutes of Nov. 14th to sell at not less than 37½ cts per acre.

Rowena C. Seals of Putnam Co. applied for the refunding of the purchase money for the following tracts of lands which were in the military reservation around Palatka & which had never been patented to the State, viz:

\$19.88-100 for the N. W. qr. of the S. W. qr of Sect. 28 in T. 9 S. of R. 26 E. containing 39.76 acres & \$20.23 for the N. W. qr. of S. W. qr. of Sect. 2 in T 10 S of R. 26 E containing 40.46-100 acres, and the Treasurer was directed to refund the said money, to Rowena C. Seals or her legal representative or assignees.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved that Hon. W. B. Woods Judge of the U. S. Circuit Court for the 5th Judicial Circuit be earnestly requested to hold a term of the U. S. Circuit Court at the city of Tallahassee at an early day for the purpose of hearing the case of F. Vose vs. the Trustees of the Internal I Fund to hear & determine such motions as may be made with a view of relieving the Fund & the public interests from the embarrassments now surround-

6 I. I.

ing them and the Governor was requested to transmit a copy to Judge Woods.

C. A. COWGILL,  
Secretary.

Tallahassee, February 12th, 1875.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber upon the call of the Governor.

Present: M. L. Stearns, Gov.  
W. A. Cocke, Atty. Genl.  
Dennis Eagan, C. of L. & I.  
C. A. Cowgill, Compt.

The bill of J. H. Durkee Sheriff of Duval Co. for services in the case of the State vs. the J. P. & R. R. Co. & D. P. Holland presented May 21, 1874, was allowed for the sum of ninety dollars & forty cents and the Treasurer directed to pay it.

H. Bisbee, Jr., was allowed six hundred & ninety three dollars & twenty cents, balance due him as attorney for the Board & for expenses incurred by him as attorney as per account rendered Jan'y 20.

A communication was received from Messrs. Williams, Swann & Corley informing the Trustees that Mr. Vose offers to make up the difference in price per acre for floats as between 32 & 37½ cents said difference of 5½ cents per acre to be a charge against the coupons held by him.

Messrs. Williams, Swann and Corley request to be permitted to designate a portion of land on & near the Re-loosahatchie river not yet patented to the State to be sold to them when patented at a reduced rate in part payment of their account for selecting lands which was read & referred to the Com. of Lands and Immigration.

James B. Stone applied for permission to drain certain lands in Calhoun Co. lying in S. 8 of T. 3, R. 9 West and adjacent sections and to receive as compensation therefor one third of the Lands drained.

The following resolution was adopted: Resolved That J. B. Stripling Timber Agt. be and he is hereby allowed for his services as such agent one fourth of the proceeds arising from all seizures of timber made by him, and the

Commissioner of lands & Immigration be instructed to pay the same out of the money he may receive on account of such seizures, turning the balance over to the Treasurer who shall place the same to the credit of the fund to which the lands belong from which the timber seized was cut and removed.

The Secretary presented his report of the proceedings of the Trustees for the past year, intended for transmittal to General Assembly which was read and approved.

C. A. COWGILL, Secretary.

Tallahassee, February 25, 1875.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber upon the call of the Governor.

Present all the members.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

The following communication was received and read as follows viz:

Office of the West Florida & Mobile R. R. Co.

Tallahassee, Feby 27th, 1875.

To the Trustees of the

I. I. Fund of the

State of Florida

Gentlemen:

The West Florida and Mobile Railroad Company is a corporation organized in accordance with the Act of the Legislature of this State entitled "An Act to provide a General law for the incorporation of railroads and canals" approved Feby. 19, 1874, for the purpose of constructing, maintaining and operating a railroad from the present western terminus of the J. P & M. R. R. at the Apalachicola river to Mobile & Pensacola. As this line of railroad is one of the lines specified in the Act entitled "An Act to provide for & encourage a liberal system of Internal Improvement in this State" approved Jan'y 6, 1855, as a proper improvement to be aided from the I. I. Fund and the company has resolved to accept the provisions of the said act, but is willing to waive the right granted in section 8 of said act to the endorsement

of the Trustees upon its bonds and also the right granted in Sect. 15 to a grant of the alternate sections of State lands on each side for six miles provided the Trustees will sell to the Company all the Lands now vested in the Trustees lying west of the Apalachicola river, on as reasonable terms as similar sales have been made to any other Company in this State.

By a resolution of the Board of Directors the President and the Secretary of the Company were authorized to notify the Board of Trustees in writing of the intention of the company to fully accept the provisions of the said act as aforesaid and also to make a contract for the purchase of the lands specified on the most favorable terms which the Board of Trustees are willing to grant.

We have the honor to be

R. W. RUTER, Presdt.

E. M. CHENEY, Secry.

Whereupon it was unanimously

Resolved, That the Attorney General be requested to draw a contract selling the lands west of the Apalachicola River to the said Company upon the same terms as lands were contracted to be sold to the Great Southern railway Co. with the additional proviso that these lands are withdrawn from market except to actual settlers for purposes of cultivation, and further provided that a forfeiture of the contract of sale shall occur unless the work is commenced, progressed and furnished according to the term of said contract.

Communications were received from James Tucker & Alex Grant asking for grant of lands to aid in rendering navigable the Suwannee and Withlacoochee rivers, which were read and referred to the Attorney General Commissioner of Lands & the Treasurer for investigation and report.

A proposition was received from Peter Papin in the name and on behalf of the Cooperative Colonization Trust Company of Florida to purchase certain lands in the southern counties at ten cents per acre upon condition of placing settlers upon them, which was read and referred to Messrs. Eagan and Cowgill for investigation and report.

It was ordered That \$41.78 be refunded to N. H. Moragne assignee of J. C. McMillan purchase money paid

for lots 3 & 8 of S. 29, T. 10, R. 27 S. & E., said lots being in the military reservation around Palatka & having been purchased at the above mentioned price, the Trustees having no authority to sell.

The Treasurer was directed to pay the account of L. G. Dennis for services as Timber Agent from the 10th day of April to the 10th day of February at the rate of fifty dollars per month.

The Treasurer was directed to pay to C. A. Cowgill Secretary two hundred dollars as in full for making the Index book.

C. A. COWGILL.

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Thursday March 4, 1875.

The Trustees met in the executive Chamber upon the call of the President. Present all the members except Mr. Eagan C. of L. & I.

Minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

The Attorney General presented a contract made with the West Florida and Mobile R. R. Co. which was read and approved and signed by the parties respectively, as follows, viz:

This instrument made and entered into this fourth day of March A. D. 1875. by and between the West Florida and Mobile Railroad Company, a corporation duly created and organized under and by virtue of an act of the Legislature of the State of Florida entitled 'An Act to provide a General law for the incorporation of Railroads and canals' approved Feb. 19, 1874, party of the first part and the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the said State of Florida, party of the second part—  
Witnesseth—

That the said party of the first part for and in consideration of the sum of five dollars in hand received before the execution of this instrument, and the agreement of the said party of the second part hereinafter contained agrees and is hereby firmly bounden unto the said party of the second part as follows towit:

1st. To construct a rail road from the present terminus of the Jacksonville Pensacola & Mobile Railroad on the east side of the Apalachicola river to the Western bound-



ary of the State of Florida and to Pensacola Bay, the said road to be completed within two years from the date of this instrument.

2nd. To construct said road in conformity with the specification contained in the sixth section of an act of the Legislature of Florida entitled "an act to provide for and encourage a liberal system of Internal Improvements in this State" approved January 6, 1855 and the amendments thereto.

3rd. To pay to the said party of the second part and in lawful money, for all lands that may under this agreement be sold and conveyed to said party of the first part and at the price in this instrument named, upon the execution of the deeds. And the said party of the second part in consideration of the sum of five dollars in hand received from the said party of the first part before the execution of this instrument and in consideration of the great benefits to be derived by the State of Florida from the construction of a railroad according to the agreement of the said party of the first part as above set forth agrees and is hereby bounden unto the said party of the first part as follows, viz:—

1st. When ten miles of said railroad shall be constructed and in running order according to the terms of this agreement, the said party of the second part shall sell and convey to the said party of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of \$3000 (three thousand dollars) lawful money, two hundred (200) sections of land (or such legal subdivisions as may be equivalent in amount to said two hundred sections) lying nearest to the said completed miles of road & upon the completion of each additional ten miles of said road shall sell and convey to the said party of the first part at the same price a like number of sections, provided however that the whole number of acres so sold and conveyed shall not exceed the number of acres now vested in the said party of the second part lying west of the Apalachicola River, the same being about eleven hundred thousand acres as appears by the certificate of the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration hereto annexed:—

2nd. To withdraw all the lands now vested in the said party of the second part, lying west of the Apalachicola river being the lands covered by this contract,

from market on the execution of this instrument, and to reserve the same exclusively for sale and conveyance to the said party of the first part on the compliance of the said party of the first part with the terms and conditions hereinbefore recited.

Provided however that the said party of the first part shall construct ten miles of the said road within six months from the date of this instrument and thereafter shall construct at least ten miles of said road every three months, and in case of failure to comply with this provision the said party of the second part shall in its discretion have the right to consider this contract at an end and to place back upon the market all the lands so reserved excepting such portions of the same as may have been theretofore sold and conveyed to the said party of the first part under this agreement. It being however understood and agreed that the said party of the second part for the purpose of encouraging immigration and settlement shall have the right to sell any of the said reserved lands to actual settlers of forty, eighty or one hundred and sixty acres at the present price of State lands viz:—One dollar per acre for parcels of forty acres, ninety cents per acre for parcels of eighty acres and eighty cents per acre for parcels of one hundred and sixty acres, provided however that no lands lying within two miles on either side of the surveyed line of the road shall be so sold without the written consent of the said party of the first part and provided further that the money received for such parcels of lands shall be paid over by the said party of the second part to the party of the first part in lieu of the lands so sold or other lands shall be substituted therefor at the option of the Trustees.

Signed, sealed and delivered in duplicate at Tallahassee the day & date above written.

R. W. RUTER, President of W. F. & M. R. R. Co.

E. M. CHENEY, Secy. W. F. & M. R. R. Co.

M. L. STEARNS, Governor.

W. A. COCKE, Atty. Gen.

C. A. COWGILL, Comptroller.

CHAS. H. FOSTER, Treasurer.

D. EAGAN, Com. of Lands & Im.

Charles Koch, presented a communication in which he stated that he was sent by Gov. Reed to Europe in 1871

to obtain immigrants for Florida and that under the agreement made with & by Gov. Reed the State owes him \$1237. for the services as above mentioned & as the State has not paid him & refuses to pay, he requests the Trustees to pay the said bill.

Whereupon—

It was resolved That the Secretary return the communication to Mr. Koch and inform him that they have no authority to appropriate the funds belonging to the I. I. Fund for such a purpose.

C. A. COWGILL,  
Secretary.

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March 12th, 1875.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber.

Present: M. L. Stearns, Governor.  
W. A. Cocke, Attorney General.  
Chas. H. Foster, Treasurer.  
D. Eagan, C. of L. & I.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Mr. Eagan offered the following resolution which was read and adopted.

Resolved, That Dennis Eagan Commissioner of Lands & Immigration for the State of Florida, be and he is hereby directed to take the necessary steps on behalf of the State to settle all claims of the State with the Department of the Interior of the United States arising under the several acts of Congress donating lands to the State & to secure for the State all warrants, patents or monies that may have accrued to the State under any of the acts of Congress—

Be it further Resolved That the said Commissioner is hereby requested to call on Mess. Williams, Swann and Corley to assist him in procuring such settlements, as agreed by them in their contract of May 10th, 1873.

Be it further resolved, that the necessary and reasonable expenses incurred in carrying out the above instructions will be paid by the Board.

A communication was received from the Gulf & At-

lantic Transit Canal Company requesting that a grant of lands be given to said Co. which was read.

C. A. COWGILL,  
Secy.

Tallahassee, April 10th, '75.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber—

All the members present.

A letter was received from Haney G. Eastman of Po-keepsie, N. Y., stating that he with other gentlemen proposed an Immigration scheme of some magnitude to Florida, involving the building of a railroad from some water terminus into the Interior, and requested a sale, or grant of land to aid the enterprise, and Mr. Swann appeared before the Board giving some detailed statements concerning the enterprise—

Whereupon

It was unanimously

Resolved, That the Trustees view with favor the enterprise proposed by Mr. Eastman and that he be requested to submit a proposition agreeing to build & equip a first class narrow guage railroad within twelve months from date, of not less than 25 miles in length running Westwardly or Southwardly from Lake Munroe, and to locate a town containing not less than five hundred inhabitants and a hotel whose cost of construction shall be at least \$50,000, and requesting the Trustees to sell 50,000 acres of Swamp and overflowed lands to be selected West of Range 30 and South of Township 22 at the rate of ten cents per acre."

The Secretary was directed to communicate with Mr. Eastman and send a copy of the above resolution to him.

The Treasurer was directed to refund to George W. Carter \$80,000, that amount having been paid by him in 1859 for the South half of the S. E. quarter of Sect. 24 in T. 9. S. of R. 27 E. containing 80 acres, the said land being in the Palatka reservation and never having belonged to the State.

C. A. COWGILL,  
Secretary.

Tallahassee, April 19th, 1875.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber upon the call of the Governor.

Present all the members.

A bill was presented for expenses as Timber Agent for the months of February and March by L. G. Dennis for \$80.00 which was allowed.

A letter was received from T. W. Osborn Presdt of the Great Southern Railway Co. requesting that floats might be issued for the lands accruing to the Company for construction of the road from the St. Marys river to Jacksonville, on the ground that there is not sufficient land to the north of Jacksonville belonging to the Fund to enable the Trustees to comply with their contract with the Company, which was read and considered and the Secretary was directed to inform Mr. Osborn that the Trustees declined to change the terms of the contract and that when 10 miles of the said road was completed, they would be permitted to purchase the stipulated number of acres nearest the road.

A proposition was received from Andrew E. Hodges to be permitted to cut all the cedar upon the Trust lands lying in Township 15 and 16 of Range 16, South and East paying therefor three cents per cubic foot, whereupon

It was Resolved

That the Trustees will sell the cedar timber in the above mentioned sections to Mr. Hodges at 4 cents per cubic foot, and that if the proposition be accepted by Mr. Hodges, that the Attorney General and Commissioner of Lands and Immigration are instructed to draw up a contract with Mr. Hodges.

The board then adjourned to meet tomorrow at 11 a. m.

C. A. COWGILL,  
Secretary.

April 20, 1875.

The Trustees met pursuant to adjournment.

All the members present.

A communication was received from Ray P. Eaton attorney at law of Washington City D. C., in which he



stated that the Pensacola & Georgia Railroad Company had a claim against the United States for balance due for transporting troops &c during the year 1865-6, and that the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund appeared to be the legal representatives of said Company and offered his professional services to have the said claim allowed to the Trustees and on motion it was unanimously Resolved That the service of Mr. Eaton be engaged as he proposes and that the Attorney General be requested to draw up the necessary papers.

A communication was received from Messrs. Williams, Swann & Corley enclosing a letter for Wm. H. Ludlow, in which the possibility of selling all the lands of the Fund was suggested and requesting to know the price at which one to 5 millions of land would be sold, whereupon the Secretary was directed to inform Messrs. Williams, Swann & Corley, that one million of the Swamp and overflowed lands would be sold in tracts of 100,000 acres for 28 cents per acre net and from 2 to 5,000,000 at 25 cents per acre net.

In response to various communications for Peter Papin Presdt of the Cooperation Colonization Trust Company of Florida, the following Resolution was unanimously adopted.

Resolved that the Trustees of the I. I. Fund agree to sell and convey to the Cooperative Colonization Trust Company of Florida all lands in Munroe Co. as soon as they are patented to the State by the United States at the rate of ten cents per acre upon which said Company shall have made improvements and located a family of actual settlers for each and every 320 acres provided the said Company purchase at the same rate all lands that may be vacant in each and every Township in which a settlement has been made by it.

The Secretary was directed to forward a copy of said resolution to Mr. Papin.

C. A. COWGILL,

Compt.

May 1st, 1875.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber.

Present: M. L. Stearns, Governor.  
W. A. Cocke, Atty. Genl.  
D. Eagan, C. L. & I.  
C. A. Cowgill, Compt.

A communication was received from F. Vose as follows, viz:—

Tallahassee, Fla., April 30, '75.

To the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida.

Gentlemen

Being desirous of making a settlement with your Board for the amount due me as a creditor of the Internal Improvement Fund, I make the following proposition.

If the Trustees will pay me the sum of four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000) within one year from date. I will accept said sum in full settlement of my claim against the Fund and surrender all the coupons held by me whether due or to become due. I will further relieve the Trustees for any responsibility for the collection of the amount to fall due hereafter from the Florida Railroad as Sinking Fund upon the Bonds held by me, taking the authority from your Board to collect the same in the name of the Trustees at my own expense.

I will also consent to any arrangement that may be satisfactory to the Trustees to enter a consent decree for the discharge of the Receiver in the suit pending between us.

The whole amount which I claim against this fund is \$560,950.80-100 as per enclosed memorandum.

Respectfully,

F. VOSE.

(Memorandum accompanying the above communication.)

Statement of F. Vose's claim against the Internal Improvement Fund—

## Overdue

|                                                                                       |               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| 5850 Coupons (195 bonds) from March 1,<br>1861, to March 1875, \$35 each.....         | \$ 204,750 00 |
| Interest on do.....                                                                   | 107,493 75    |
| Expenses of litigation .....                                                          | 55,000 00     |
|                                                                                       | <hr/>         |
|                                                                                       | \$ 367,243 75 |
| Interest one year .....                                                               | \$ 25,707 06  |
|                                                                                       | <hr/>         |
|                                                                                       | \$ 392,950 81 |
| To become due 4800 coupons (150 bonds)<br>from March, '75, to March '91, \$35 each... | 168,000 00    |
|                                                                                       | <hr/>         |
|                                                                                       | \$ 560,950 81 |

On motion of Attorney General Cocke the communication was referred to a committee of two for investigation and report; Whereupon,

Messrs. Cocke & Eagan were appointed said committee.

C. A. COWGILL,  
Secretary...

May 25th, 1875.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber upon the call of the Governor. Present all the members except the Treasurer.

The minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

A communication was received from Wm. H. Gleason which was read as follows, viz:

To the Hon. Board of Trustees of the In. Imp. Fund of the State of Florida.

Gentlemen

In pursuance of certain contracts made between myself and your Honorable Board dated March 13th A. D. 1868, and February 4th, A. D. 1869, I have completed a canal or ditch containing three hundred thousand (300,000) cubic feet in Township forty two Range forty three east which canal or ditch connects Lake Worth with the Atlantic Ocean, lowers the water in the Lake and drains and reclaims all the adjoining lands, as appears by the certificate and affidavit herewith enclosed.

The work thus performed by me entitles me under the said contracts to receive from your Hon. Board a conveyance of six sections of land (one section for each fifty thousand cubic feet of canal or ditch dug) the same to be selected by me and on payment to your Board of forty dollars for each section when conveyed. I herewith tender to your honorable Board the sum of two hundred and forty (\$240) dollars and requests a conveyance to me of the following schedule of lands herewith enclosed, the said lands being within the limits of the grants of March 13th A. D. 1868 and February 4th A. D. 1869—

Very respectfully,

W. H. GLEASON,

Tallahassee, Fla., May 24th, 1875.

This communication was accompanied by a sworn statement of Wm. H. Gleason that he had dug the ditch or canal referred to.

Whereupon on motion of Mr. Eagan the following preamble and resolution were adopted.

Whereas, Wm. H. Gleason claiming to have excavated three hundred thousand cubic feet of canal or ditch in Townships Range in pursuance of certain contracts made between him and this Board dated April 13th 1868 and February 4, 1869, has this day made a demand upon this Board, for a sale and conveyance to him of six sections of land at the rate of forty dollars per section and has tendered therefor the sum of two hundred and forty dollars being the amount of land and the price therefore stipulated for the said amount of ditching in the said contract; and whereas this Board is now advised that it has no power to appropriate any of the lands belonging to the Internal Improvement Fund for the purpose of drainage or for any other purpose except for the prosecution of the works of Internal Improvement especially designated in an act to encourage a liberal system of Internal Improvement in this State approved Jany. 6th, 1855, or to pay the obligations already contracted in behalf of said improvements and that the said contracts are, therefore null and void, therefore.

Be it Resolved that the demand of the said Gleason for the sale and conveyance as aforesaid be not complied with for the reasons above stated.

A communication was received from Wm. H. Gleason asking to be appointed an agent of the Trustees to sell the swamp and overflowed lands at the following prices.

Quantities of 50,000 acre at 55 cts pr acre.

Quantities of 100,000 acre at 50 cts pr acre.

Quantities of 200,000 acre at 45 cts pr acre.

Quantities of 500,000 acre at 40 cts pr acre.

Quantities of 1,000,000 acre at 25 cts pr acre.

Which was read and no further action taken thereon.

The Memorial of E. Hopkins Presdt. of the Lake Harney & Indian River Tram Road Co. was taken up for consideration and

It was Resolved that the Trustee feel unable to sell lands to said Company at a nominal rate as they are now advised they have no power to appropriate any of the lands belonging to the Internal Improvement Fund for other purposes than the prosecution of the works of Internal Improvement especially designated in "an act to encourage a liberal system of Int. Imp. in this State approved Jan'y 6th 1855 or to pay the obligations already contracted in behalf of said improvements.

A communication was received from T. W. Osborn in which he stated that Gen. Ludlow of N. York, requested him to open negotiations with the Trustees, by which Mr. Ludlow should be appointed an agent of the Board for one year or more to sell lands in large quantities in Europe or elsewhere which was read and no action taken thereon.

The following letter was presented from Messrs. Williams, Swann & Corley which was read.

To the Honorable Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida.

Gentlemen

We have the honor to request that your Board will make the necessary deeds of conveyance for the lands heretofore sold by us as agents under the decree of the court in the suit of Francis Vose vs. the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund. Said sales were reported from time to time to the Salesman and with one or two exceptions were made under the scale of prices adopted by the Trustees.

In those cases where we sold in large quantities at 65 cents per acre, we think the sales were expedient



and judicious and hope that your Board will concur with us relative thereto.

Very respectfully,  
Your Obt. Servants,  
WILLIAMS, SWANN & CORLEY,  
Agents.

Whereupon on motion of Hon. Wm. A. Cocke the following resolution was adopted.

Resolved, That Messrs. Williams, Swann & Corley be requested to present to the Trustees a schedule of the lands sold by them for which they desire to have deeds made by the Trustees showing at what price said lands were sold and their charges for commissions upon each sale, and for other expenses.

On motion the Board adjourned to meet tomorrow at 12 M.

C. A. COWGILL,  
Secretary.

May 26th, 1875.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment. Present all the members except the Treasurer.

The following letter was received from Messrs. Williams, Swann & Corley.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 26, 1875.

Gentlemen:—

In part compliance with the resolution adopted yesterday by your Board we herewith transmit an abstract of the lands sold by us for which we desire to have deeds executed to the respective purchasers.

The aggregate quantity of land sold is 8,596.02 acres and the amount of purchase money paid therefor is \$6,335.18. The amount charged by us as commissions on each sale was ten per cent of the purchase money, making our total commission amount to \$633.51. We also charged the amounts paid out by us for preliminary expenses of sale, the special items of which were reported to the Treasurer of your board from time to time. We cannot today specify the particular items as it would be necessary to procure them from our own office at Fernandina or the office of the Master in Jacksonville or from the office

of the Treasurer of your Board. The largest item is the expense of procuring township plats to enable us to furnish information to applicants to purchase.

Very respectfully,  
 WILLIAMS, SWANN & CORLEY,  
 Agents, &c.

After some discussion of this subject Judge Cocke offered the following resolution.

Resolved, That the Trustees sign the deeds for sales of land as appears by abstract furnished by Williams, Swann & Corley to the Trustees on the 26th day of May 1875, reserving such points as to expenses and commissions as the Trustees may make to the Court; and

C. A. Cowgill offered the following as a substitute for the above Resolution.

Resolved that the Trustees decline to execute deeds for the lands sold by Mess. Williams, Swann & Corley as stated in the abstract of such sales this day furnished by them, for the following reasons.

1st. That in some instances sales of small tracts have been made at a much lower rate than the price affixed by the Trustees, and they believe that the same sales would have been made by themselves at the regular price.

2nd. That from the proceeds of the sales embraced in said abstract Messrs. Williams, Swann & Corley have retained not only ten per cent claimed by them as commissions but also a large amount for preliminary and other expenses, rendering it impracticable for the Salesman to specify with accuracy the net amount received for each tract thus embarrassing and obscuring the records of sale.

3rd. That to prevent this embarrassment of our records of sales we think the allowances to Messrs. Williams, Swann & Corley for all expenses and commissions should be determined by the Court, and paid out of the funds in the hands of the Receiver. \* \* \*

M. L. Stearns presented a bill of \$194.50 for expenses of self incurred during two visits to Jacksonville on business of the Fund and for himself and the other Trustees attending session of U. S. Circuit Court in case of F. Vose

vs. the Trustees including telegrams which was allowed and the Treasurer directed to pay it.

C. A. COWGILL,  
Secretary.

Tuesday June 1st, 1875.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber upon the call of the Governor.

Present: M. L. Stearns, Gov.  
W. A. Cocke, Atty. Genl.  
C. A. Cowgill, Compt.

The minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

C. A. Cowgill offered a preamble and resolution which was adopted as follows, viz:

Whereas, A. Doggett, Esq., was appointed Receiver in the case of F. Vose vs. H. Bisbee & al on the 1st day of June A. D. 1872, by the Hon. Philip Frazer Judge of the U. S. Circuit Court for the Northern District of Florida and under such appointment the said A. Doggett, Esq., has been making monthly visits to Tallahassee for the purpose of receiving from the Treasurer of the I. I. Fund all monies that are to be turned over to him by virtue of said decree at an expense to the Fund of at least \$50 for each visit and as the said funds with the monthly statement of accounts can as well and as safely be sent to the Treasurer by express to the said A. Doggett, Esq., making a saving of more than six hundred dollars per annum, therefore

Resolved

That the Hon. M. L. Stearns Governor and President of the Board of Trustees of the I. I. Fund be and he hereby is appointed representative of the Trustees to call the attention of his Honor, Judge Frazer to this subject and to request from him an order directing the said Receiver to discontinue his monthly visits to Tallahassee for the purpose of receiving said funds and to direct the Treasurer of the I. I. Fund to transmit to the said A. Doggett, Esq., by express at the end of each month all funds that should be turned over to him by virtue of the aforesaid decree.

Notice was received from Williams, Swann and Corley

that on the 2nd day of June they would apply to Hon. Philip Frazer Judge of U. S. Court for approval of their accounts and confirmation of sales of land as agents.

A letter from Williams, Swann & Corley was received enclosing one from Gen. W. H. Ludlow requesting to be made exclusive agent for sale of lands in large bodies, outside of the State, and Messrs. W. S. & C. expressed their desire that such an agreement should be given to Gen. L.--

Whereupon the Secretary was directed to correspond with Mr. Ludlow & Messrs. W. S. & C. on the subject.

C. A. COWGILL, Secretary.

June 30th, 1875.

The Trustees met in the office of the Attorney General.

Present: W. A. Cocke, Atty. Genl.

Dennis Eagan, Comr. of L. & I.

C. H. Foster, Treasurer.

C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.

On motion Hon. Wm. A. Cocke was appointed chairman.

L. G. Dennis accounts for expenses incurred as Timber Agent for \$125 for the month of May & \$62 for the month of April were allowed & the Treasurer directed to pay them.

L. G. Dennis presented a bill for salary as Timber Agent for 4 & 2-3 mos. from Feby 10th, to June 30, 1875, for \$233 33-100 which was allowed and the Treasurer directed to pay it.

A bill was presented by Horatio Jenkins, Jr., for services as referee in the case of Trustees vs. J. P. & M. R. Co., Walter S. Littlefield et al., services performed in April 1874 for \$50.00 which was allowed and the Treasurer directed to pay by the following vote.

Yeas—Messrs. Eagan, Foster & Cowgill.

Nays—Mr. Cocke.

A bill was allowed to the Florida Union for printing copies of brief of answer & exhibits of Trustees in the Vose case in the May term of the U. S. Circuit Court for \$40.00.

C. A. Cowgill presented a bill for fifty dollars for expenses incurred in carrying out a resolution of the Trustees dated August 26th 1874, instructing him to demand and receive from Moses Taylor of New York certain bonds in his possession belonging to the Fund, which was allowed and the Treas. directed to pay it.

An account was presented from Frank W. Webster reading as follows:

Internal Improvement Fund  
State of Florida Dr.

To Frank Webster Dr.

To services as Salesman of Board of Trustees

I. I. Fund State of Florida from August 5th  
1868 to May 15th 1871 at twelve hundred dol-

lars per annum.....\$3,403.33

Whereupon it appearing that during the time that Mr. Webster served as Salesman of the Board the hire of one clerk & at times two, was paid by the Trustees for the use of his office it was

Resolved, That the bill be not allowed, Mr. Webster having no claim upon the Fund for his services as salesman.

C. A. COWGILL, Secy.

Friday July 2, 1875.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber upon the call of the Governor.

Present all the members.

The minutes of the last two meetings read & approved.

The following preamble and resolution was adopted unanimously.

Whereas, Unnecessary expenses have heretofore been incurred in the monthly transfer of funds to the Receiver under the decree of the U. S. Circuit Court. Therefore

Resolved, That the fiscal month close on the 30th of each month & that the Treasurer be & he is hereby directed to deliver or cause to be delivered the funds (to be turned over) to the Receiver, in Jacksonville on the succeeding day, or as soon thereafter as may be practicable.

Various communications from Messrs. Williams, Swann & Corley, & one from Wm. H. Ludlow of New



York, requesting the appointment of the latter as exclusive agent for the sale of the Swamp & overflowed lands outside of the State of Florida were presented & after discussion of the subject they were referred to the Commissioner of Lands & Immigration and Attorney General for report.

Messrs. Williams, Swann & Corley presented a schedule of lands sold by them as agents of the Court with the expenses incurred upon each sale, and

The salesman was instructed to prepare deeds for all the lands sold where the price obtained was the schedule price as adopted by the Trustees, in conformity with the recent decree of Judge Frazer.

Messrs. Williams Swann & Corley also requested that the Trustees would make deeds to Edward C. Hungerford for the lands purchased by him at a lower rate than the schedule prices urging various reasons therefor, and after consideration & discussion The salesman was directed to prepare the deed for said lands for the signature of the Trustees.

Application was made by the St. Johns Railway Co. for a deed for the Alternate sections of land conditionally conveyed to said Company by Sect. 13 of C 936, No 95, 1858 laws of Florida, and the application with the accompanying papers were referred to Hon. Wm. A. Cocke for investigation & report.

A bill for \$468.80 was presented by Henry Wells surviving partner of Randolph & Wells Agents for the selection of Swamp lands for Amt. due for the selection of lands embraced in the following patents:

|                                               |                               |           |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Patent No. 9                                  | St. Augustine land dis't..... | 29,657.80 |
| "                                             | 10                            | 2,793.25  |
| "                                             | 11                            | 232.06    |
| "                                             | 11 Newnansville land dis't    | 22,030.81 |
| Patent No. 16                                 | Tampa land dis't.....         | 3,886.88  |
|                                               |                               | <hr/>     |
|                                               |                               | 58,600.80 |
| At 8 mills per acre.....                      |                               | \$468.80  |
| which was read and referred to the Secretary. |                               |           |

An itemized account for professional services rendered the Trustees for \$775. was presented by H. Bisbee, Jr., & allowed & the Treasurer directed to pay it.

Mr.....introduced the following preamble and resolution, viz:

Whereas it appears from the records of the proceedings of this Board that Calvin B. Dibble and George W. Swepson were on the 8th day of April A. D. 1869 appointed the confidential Agents of the Trustees of the I. I. Fund of Florida with authority in each to take up the outstanding first mortgage Bonds of the Pensacola and Georgia & the Tallahassee R. R. Companies and that the Attorney General and Comptroller were directed to turn over to said Dibble & Swepson or either of them all moneys that may be received by them from the purchasers of said roads at the sale thereof on the 20th day of March of said year, and whereas it also appears that the said George W. Swepson as such Agent did receive from the Attorney General and Comptroller the sum of four hundred & seventy-two thousand and sixty-five dollars (\$472,065) & did receipt for the same. And whereas the said Dibble & Swepson have rendered no account of any bonds of said Companies taken up by them with said moneys nor in any manner accounted for said moneys to this Board. Therefore Be it Resolved, That the power and authority heretofore conferred upon George W. Swepson and Calvin B. Dibble as the agents of this Board to take up or purchase with said moneys any bonds issued by the said Railroad Companies be and the same is hereby revoked.

2nd. Resolved that the Attorney and solicitor of this Board be and he is hereby instructed to proceed without delay to compel the said Swepson to account for the said moneys so received as aforesaid and to receive from said Swepson any Bonds of said Companies which he has taken up if any, and the balance of such purchase money now due from him.

3rd. And be it further resolved that for the purpose of assuring the payment at maturity of the principal of the said outstanding Bonds of said Railroad Companies, the Treasurer of this Board is hereby directed to invest all moneys which may be received on account of said purchase money or on account of any sinking Fund that may now be due in United States Bonds and to invest the interest that may accrue thereon in United States Bonds.

4th. And in view of the very large interest the State of Florida has in the Railroads formerly owned by the said Companies and now owned by the Jacksonville, Pensacola and Mobile Railroad Company as the holder of three thousand bonds of the latter Company of the denomination of one thousand dollars each dated January 1st, 1870, maturing in 1900, which interest the State is now endeavoring to protect by Judicial proceedings and otherwise, that in case said moneys can not be collected from the said Swepson and it becomes necessary to resort to said last mentioned Railroad Company, and said Railroad property and to proceed to collect therefrom any of moneys adjudged to be due from said Company by the decree of the Circuit Court of Duval County rendered April 2nd, 1874 & in that event in order that the rights of the State as a holder of said Railroad bonds may be protected to the utmost extent—

Be it resolved That it is the opinion and judgment of this Board that every effort should be made to collect so much and no more of said moneys adjudged due by said decree, from the income and revenue of said Railroad and its property to be invested in said bonds of the United States or other good security of the United States as will be sufficient together with the one per cent. sinking Fund per annum due upon the said outstanding Bonds to pay off said Bonds at maturity.

Judge Cocke moved that the resolution be amended by striking out the 3 & 4th resolution which motion was lost by the following vote.

Yeas—Mr. Cocke.

Nays—Messrs. Cowgill, Eagan, Foster & Stearns.

The preamble and resolutions were then adopted by the following vote:

Yeas—Mess. Cowgill, Eagan, Foster & Stearns.

Nays—Mr. Cocke.

The Board then adjourned.

Tallahassee, Florida, July 12th, 1875.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber upon the call of the Governor.

The Treasurer was directed to refund to Hugh A. Corley agent for F. S. Merritt \$39.50 payment made on the 14th day of September A. D. 1874 to the Salesman, for 39½ acres of land which belonged to the United States, said land being the S. W. qr of the N. W. qr. of Sect. 36, T. 21 S. R. 23 E.

The Committee to whom was referred the propositions of Mess. Williams, Swann & Corley & W. H. Ludlow concerning the sale of land in England through the appointment of Hon. Reverdy Johnson as Agent presented the following Resolution:

Whereas the accumulation of indebtedness against the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida by reason of the nonpayment of coupons upon guaranteed Railroad Bonds during the Rebellion and the annually accruing liability for coupons falling due and the expenses of litigation consequent upon institution of judicial proceedings by certain holders of said coupons render the ordinary sales of lands to settlers inadequate to meet the demands upon the Fund and the Trustees believe that without some extraordinary effort on their part to obtain an amount sufficient to pay off the indebtedness which has already accrued, the greater part of the Int. Imp. Fund, will be consumed in paying the interest upon the bonds already issued and the expenses of litigation leaving but little, if anything to be applied to any further improvement in the State, and whereas it has been strongly represented to us that by the employment of a reliable and influential agent to place before the capitalists of England a true statement of the value of our lands they could be induced to invest a sufficient amount in the purchase of said lands to enable us to pay off the present indebtedness and relieve the Fund from further embarrassment provided the price of said land shall be made sufficiently low to offer extraordinary inducements for such investment; and whereas we believe that the Hon. Reverdy Johnson of Maryland by reason of his high reputation at home and abroad and his acquaintance with the customs and manners of the English people, is eminently qualified to assist us in making sales of land

for the purpose aforesaid and has consented to act as our agent in the premises. Therefore

Be it Resolved by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, That Reverdy Johnson of Maryland be and is hereby appointed the agent of this Board for the purpose of negotiating sales of the lands belonging to the Internal Improvement Fund lying East of the Apalachicola River provided the quantity of lands sold by him as such agent shall not be less than one million acres nor more than three million acres, such sales to be made within six months from this date and on the following terms: If less than two million acres be sold by said agent the amount to be paid therefore into the Internal Improvement Fund shall be twenty eight cents per acre free from all charges and expenses. The lands that may be sold by such agent to be selected by the purchaser thereof, in tract containing not less than one hundred thousand acres of contiguous lands. In making such selections tracts shall be considered contiguous which are not separated by other lands belonging to the Fund, that is to say, when two tracts of land belonging to the Fund are separated by lands belonging to the United States or individuals, they shall for the purposes aforesaid be considered contiguous tracts.

2. Be it further resolved, That the Board will execute such papers as may be necessary to satisfy all parties interested that our said agent has full authority to act in the premises on behalf of the Trustees and to enable said agent to furnish to purchasers the legal evidence to sustain any contract made through him and for that purpose the Board will execute a deed conveying to the said Reverdy Johnson three million of acres of land to be selected by him or his assigns in the manner hereinbefore set forth a copy of which deed shall be delivered to the said Reverdy Johnson and the original thereof shall be deposited with ..... of London to be delivered to the said Johnson upon his payment to said ..... of an amount sufficient to place seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars in the Banking house of ..... in the city of New York to the credit of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, and the Board will further execute a power of Attorney to said Reverdy Johnson authoriz-



ing him to sell three million of acres of land in quantities and on the terms hereinbefore specified, conditioned however that of the moneys received by him from such sales an amount equal to twenty-five cents per acre for the lands so sold shall be paid to the said.....

..... in London to the credit of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, and the Board will further furnish to said agent an appointment as the agent of the Board for the purposes aforesaid upon the same terms and conditions.

Be it further resolved that a committee be appointed consisting of Messrs. ....

..... to confer with our agent and to arrange all matters preliminary to the assuming of such agency and to make such arrangements in New York as may be necessary to carry out all matters connected with or to result from any sales that may be made by said agents and said Committee is requested to proceed immediately to New York for the purpose aforesaid. Said Committee are specially instructed to see to the safe deposit of the deed herein agreed to be made in the

..... of London and to arrange with the Banking house of....

..... in New York for the proper transfer of any funds that may be received in England belonging to the Internal Improvement Fund so that the same may be received in New York and held subject to the further order of the Trustees.

4. Be it further resolved that if the said Committee shall after proceeding to New York, and consulting with the parties through whom the sales of land as above stated are proposed to be negotiated, deem it advisable to retain the papers herein agreed to be executed and not deliver them said Committee are hereby clothed with full authority to do so, and they are further authorized to execute on behalf of the Board of Trustees any other paper that may be necessary to carry out the proposed sale or to withdraw all offers heretofore made in their discretion.

On motion of C. A. Cowgill the first blank in the 3rd resolution was filled with the names of "M. L. Stearns Governor & Dennis Eagan Commissioner."

The preamble & resolutions were then unanimously adopted.

The appointment of Reverdy Johnson as agent under the second resolution was signed, and also the deed, said deed to be placed in some banking house in London in escrow.

C. A. COWGILL,  
Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, July 30th, 1875.

The Trustees met in the office of the Attorney General.

Present—Messrs. Cocke, Foster & Cowgill.

The following preamble and resolution was unanimously adopted:

Whereas the Treasurer of the I. I. Fund receipted in the month of June to Williams, Swann & Corley agents of the U. S. Court for the sale of lands for draft No. 748 dated June 7th, 1875, drawn by S. A. Swann on Duncan Sherman & Co., of N. York amounting to \$224.14-100 and turned into the Treasury \$224.14-100 cash for said draft, and whereas said draft upon being forwarded for collection has been returned protested for nonpayment.

Therefore resolved That the Treasurer C. H. Foster be reimbursed to the amount of said draft, of \$224.14-100 and he is hereby authorized to place that amount to his credit.

A bill of the Telegraph Co. against C. H. Foster, Tr. I. I. F. for \$4.00 was allowed & ordered paid.

C. A. COWGILL, Secy.

Tallahassee, Florida, September 29th, 1875.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber.

Present—Messrs. Stearns, Eagan & Cowgill.

A copy of .....  
the decree made by R. B. Archibald Judge of the 4th Judicial Circuit on the 20th of August 1875, in the case of "The Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund & State of Florida vs. The Jacksonville Pensacola & Mobile R. R. Co. The Florida Central R. R. Co. M. S. Littlefield

& al," was presented by H. Bisbee, Jr., Attorney for the Board, and the Secretary was directed to have it recorded in the clerk's office of Leon County.

On motion it was unanimously

Resolved,

That the Treasurer be & he is hereby directed to pay to H. Bisbee, Jr., Attorney for the Board one thousand dollars for professional services as said Attorney and for expenses incurred in the suits in the State & U. S. Court in which the Trustees are parties said expenses to be designated in a bill of items with proper vouchers.

Accounts of L. G. Dennis Timber Agent for expenses incurred for \$100, in the month of June & \$53.00 in the month of July. were presented, allowed & the Treasurer directed to pay them.

An account of Edwin Higgins clerk of Duval Co. for \$15.25 for fees in case of Trustees v. J. P. & M. R. R. Co. et al. was presented & allowed & the Treasurer directed to pay it.

The following preamble and resolution was unanimously adopted:

Whereas the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 23 T. 4 S. R. 10 W. was sold to W. H. Milton on the 6th day of May 1874 and deed No. 6689 issued for same & the said tract was subsequently sold to John Donalson and deed No. 6804 was issued to said Donalson for the said land & whereas said tract of land was again sold on the 13th day of January 1875 to Charles Keep & deed No. 6837 was issued for said land to said Keep and whereas the last two entries of Messrs. Donalson & Keep were made through error of the land office & the last two named deeds having been returned to the Land office & D. Eagan Commissioner of lands having refunded the purchase money paid by Messrs. Donalson & Keep.

Therefore be it resolved that the said deeds be cancelled and the entries annulled and the sum of \$80 be refunded to D. Eagan Commissioner in payment of the purchase money refunded by him; & the Treasurer be & he is hereby directed to pay the same.

The Secretary presented the following letter from A. Doggett, Esq., which was read, viz:—

Jacksonville 8, 2 1875.

C. A. COWGILL,  
Secy of the B. I. I. F.  
Tallahassee, Fla.

Sir—

The action of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of July 2nd in relation to the turning over to me the proceeds of sales of lands has been received through the Treasurer.

Believing it to be in strict accordance with my duty as Receiver to make monthly visits or oftener if necessary, to Tallahassee to demand and receive of the Trustees the proceeds of sales of lands, I discover nothing in the Resolution of the Board which should cause me to change that belief and depart from the course hitherto pursued.

I am confirmed in the correctness of this belief, when a reference is made to the recent application by the Board to the Court to have this part of my duty cease and the refusal by the Court to do so. Will you be kind enough to put this communication before the Board.

Very respectfully,  
A. DOGGETT, Receiver.

The Secretary was directed to acknowledge the receipt of the communication and to inform Mr. Doggett that the Trustees adhered to their course of turning over the funds, expressed in their resolution of July 2nd.

Mr. Eagan submitted the following letter received from A. Doggett, viz:

Jacksonville, 9, 17, 1875.

Mr. Dennis Eagan—  
Tallahassee, Fla—

Dear Sir:

Will you do me the favor hereafter in your monthly reports of lands sold to give the T. R. & Sec—in which the lands are situated.

Very respectfully,  
A. DOGGETT, Receiver.

And requested instructions from the Trustees, but the Board declined to give any.

A communication was received from Thos. C. Lanier & other Directors of Lake George, Lake Eustis & Gulf R. R. Co. requesting grant of alternate sections of land

upon route of said road for 6 miles upon either side, and the Secretary was directed to reply, that the request could not be complied with, on account of injunctinal orders issued by the U. S. Circuit Court.

C. A. COWGILL,  
Secretary.

Thursday, Oct. 28th, 1875.

The Trustees met in the Executive office upon the call of the Governor.

Present: Gov. M. L. Stearns.  
Atty. Genl. Wm. A. Cocke.  
Comr. of Lands, D. Eagan.  
Comptroller, C. A. Cowgill.

J. M. Baker, Esq., appeared as Attorney for the St. Johns Railway Co. and requested that deeds should be made for the odd numbered sections of land within 6 miles of the said Railway, to the Company, according to S. 13 of Chap. 936 laws of Florida claiming that the Company had complied with the provisions of the charter, & were therefore entitled to said lands. Whereupon, Hon. Wm. A. Cocke offered a resolution as follows, viz:

Resolved, That the Trustees of the I. I. Fund refuse to comply with the request of the St. John's railway Co. and the resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas—Messrs. Stearns, Cocke & Cowgill.

Nays—Mr. Eagan.

The Secretary presented a communication from A. Doggett, Esq., which was read as follows—

Jacksonville, 10, 16, 1875.

"To the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida—  
Gentlemen:—

Deeming it necessary for a proper discharge of my duty as Receiver of said Fund to have a monthly statement showing the location of lands sold by T. R. Sec. or fractions of Sec. you will be kind enough to instruct the Salesman to furnish me with the same monthly.

Also that the Treasurer of the Fund accompanying



his monthly accounts with copies of vouchers or receipts of moneys disbursed.

Very respectfully,

(Signed)

A. DOGGETT,  
Receiver I. I. F."

The Secretary was directed to acknowledge the receipt of the letter, and to inform Mr. Doggett that the Trustees decline to give any instruction to the Salesman and Treasurer, believing that they knew & would fulfill their duties as prescribed by the rules of the Trustees or directed by the decrees of the Court.

The following bills were allowed and the Treasurer directed to pay them, viz:

To J. M. & H. J. Baker, for professional services in case of Francis Vose vs. Trustees, during years 1874 & 1875 \$700.00.

To E. Higgins Clerk of Duval Circuit Court, fees in case of Gleason vs. Trustees, \$23.70.

To Philip Walter, Clk. of U. S. Court, fees, etc., in case Vose vs. Trustees, \$26.50.

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C. A. COWGILL, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, Nov. 10th, 1875.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber. Present all the Trustees.

The minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

The following preamble and resolution was presented and unanimously adopted:

Whereas Marcellus L. Stearns Governor & Dennis Eagan Commissioner of Lands and Immigration acting under the authority of this Board, on the 27th day of July last placed in the hands of Drexel Morgan & Co. of New York, their draft drawn on Reverdy Johnson London, for the sum of \$753,768.75 in American current funds (Greenbacks) or its equivalent in English sterling and also an accompanying package, said draft and package, to be transmitted to London with a stipulation that if the said draft should not be paid on or before the first day of December 1875 the papers should be returned to the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund without charge—and whereas unexpected delays have oc-

curred in certain negotiations which were expected to be consummated by the payment of the draft and delivery of said package, making it important to the interests involved that an extension of time should be given to the said Reverdy Johnson for the payment of said draft.

Therefore, Be it resolved by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida that the said Marcellus L. Stearns Governor and said Dennis Eagan Commissioner are hereby authorized & instructed to extend the time for the payment of the draft drawn by them on the said Reverdy Johnson as hereinbefore set forth, to the 13th day of January next instead of the first day of December.

C. A. COWGILL, Secretary.

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Tuesday, Nov. 30th, 1875.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber upon the call of the Governor.

Present all the members.

The following communication was received and read, viz:—

To the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund:

The St. Johns Railway Company claims the whole of odd numbers of sections and fractional sections of lands of the State of Florida the adjacent line of which is within six miles on each side and from the terminus of said road which has been completed and in good running order. The Company claims that the said lands were vested in them by grant of lands under the provisions of 13th section of the act of Legislature of the State of Florida approved December 31st, 1858. The Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund having refused to recognize the validity of the title of said lands under said grant.

The said Company desiring to avoid litigation and to secure an amicable settlement of the questions involved hereby offers as a compromise between said Company and the Board of Trustees, as a further consideration for said lands to pay to the Board of Trustees of said fund the sum of ..... per acre upon agreement by said Trustees to make and

execute titles for said lands as located and specified in the survey of the same as certified August 27, 1859.

(Signed) ST. JOHNS RAILWAY COMPANY.

Pr. D. G. AMBLER,  
President.

Mr. J. M. Baker presented reasons why such a sale should be made & after some consideration the subject was postponed until tomorrow.

The Governor presented a communication he had received from I. I. Barnett Commissioner of Lands of the U. S. in which he stated that the E $\frac{1}{2}$  of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 35—Town. 35 South Range 40 East which was approved to the State by patent of June 26, 1856, had been entered by Ossian B. Hart, March 6, 1849, under the armed occupation act & therefore the land was erroneously patented to the State of Florida & requested that the apparent title held by the State be relinquished in order that a patent may issue to Ossian B. Hart, and Mr. Eagan the Commissioner of Lands certifying that the land in question had not been disposed of by the State it was Resolved, That the Trustees will relinquish their title to the land in question to the United States.

A communication was received from D. L. Yulee V. P. & Actg Presdt of the N. G. & W. I. Transit Co. which was read as follows:

Fernandina, Fla.,  
March 9, 1875.

Gentlemen:—

On the 25 of January 1870, I communicated to you by letter of that date notification of the transfer by the Florida Rail Road Company of a portion of their line to the South Florida Railroad Company the receipt of which was acknowledged by letter from J. S. Adams Secty by order of your Board.

And on the 14th November 1871 His excellency Harrison Reed Governor & President Board Trustees Int. Imp. Fund acknowledged the filing of a copy of the contract of transfer to the said South Florida Company dated Nov. 2, 1871.

I have now to inform you that owing to the failure of the said South Florida Company to construct the said road as required by the terms of the said contract, the

8 I. I.

same has been cancelled by a Decree of the Judge of the Circuit Court for the 5th Jud. Circuit sitting in chancery and that the Florida Railroad Company (now by authority of Law called the Atlantic Gulf & West India Transit Company) has resumed all its rights in and to the said uncompleted portion of their line the same as though such contract with the said South Florida Railroad Company had never been made.

I enclose herewith to be filed with this communication in the archives of your Board a certified transcript of the Decree made by the Judge of the said fifth Judicial Circuit on the 25th day of July 1874, ordering such cancellation and restoring this Company to the possession of all its preëxisting rights—

Oblige me by acknowledging the receipt of this communication, stating in such acknowledgement the purport of this communication to serve this Company as evidence of the notification herein made. I have the honor to be

Your Obt. Servant,

D. L. YULEE,

V. P. & Act. Presdt.

To the Trustees of the I. I. F. of the State of Florida:

The Secretary was directed to acknowledge the receipt of the communication & file it with the transcript referred to.

The following bills were presented and allowed and the Treasurer directed to pay them:

|                                                                                                     |         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| F. F. Myers expenses to Jacksonville 3 visits, in Sept., Oct. & Nov. to take funds to Receiver..... | \$16.00 |
| To L. G. Dennis, expenses as Timber Agent month of September .....                                  | 50.00   |
| To L. G. Dennis, expenses as Timber Agent month of October .....                                    | 62.00   |

The Board adjourned to meet tomorrow Dec. 1st, at 11 o'clock.

C. A. COWGILL,

Secretary.

Wednesday, Dec. 1, 1875.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber.

Present all the members. Minutes of last meeting read and adopted.

After some discussion of the proposition of the St. Johns Railway Co. to purchase the odd numbered sections of land adjoining their road, Mr. Ambler asked leave to withdraw it, which was granted—The meeting then adjourned.

C. A. COWGILL, Secy.

Friday, Decr 3rd, 1875.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber upon the call of the Governor.

Present M. L. Stearns, Wm. A. Cocke, Dennis Eagan, C. A. Cowgill, and C. H. Foster.

Marcellus A. Williams appeared before the Board and requested that he might be appointed Agent to sell lands South of the Suwannee River and that an office should be established in Jacksonville for the purpose of exhibiting plats and making sales, and after some discussion the further consideration of the subject was postponed until next meeting.

The bill of Henry Wells, surviving partner of Randolph & Wells, for selecting swamp lands embraced in patents Nos. 9, 10, 11, St. Augustine land district and No. 11 of Newnansville district and No. 16 of Tampa district for \$468.80 was allowed and the Treasurer directed to pay it.

It was Resolved That Governor M. L. Stearns be requested to proceed to Jacksonville next week and attend the sessions of the U. S. Circuit Court as the representative of the Trustees in the case of Vose vs. the Trustees.

The following preamble and Resolution was unanimously adopted:—

Whereas on the 29th of June, 1868, the Trustees "ordered that the moneys on hand realized from the sale of the Florida Atlantic & Gulf Central Railroad Company be placed in the hands of Edward Houston to purchase the outstanding bonds of said Company issued under the provisions of the Internal Improvement Act, the said



Edward Houston to act in this matter as the special agent of the Trustees of the I. I. Fund." And Whereas, the said Edward Houston, prior to May 16th, 1872, purchased sundry of the aforesaid bonds and by an account rendered of that date showed that a balance of \$5,430 of the sum placed in his hands by the resolution of June 29, 1868, still remained unexpended and whereas the Trustees requested the said Edward Houston to retain the said balance until further order. Now therefore—

Be it Resolved:—

That the Treasurer be directed to collect from the executors of the said Edward Houston the above sum of \$5,430 belonging to the sinking fund applicable to the payment of the bond of the Fla. A. & G. C. R. Co.

C. A. COWGILL,  
Secretary.

December 16, 1875.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber upon the call of the Governor.

All the members present.

The following preamble and resolution was adopted:

Whereas it has been represented to the Trustees that the public convenience requires the establishment of an office in Jacksonville for the sale of State lands, therefore be it resolved, That the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration is hereby authorized to establish such agency in Jacksonville if he should deem it expedient and practicable under such regulations as he may prescribe, provided that all the expenses attending such agency, including commission to agents, shall not exceed ten per cent of the sales made through such agency.

Tallahassee, Florida, Wednesday, Decr. 29th, 1875.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber upon the call of the Governor.

Present: M. L. Stearns, Governor.

C. H. Foster, Treas.

Dennis Eagan, C. of L. & I.

C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

The following preamble and resolution was presented and unanimously adopted, viz:—

Whereas, the Governor of this State has appointed and authorized Dennis Eagan, the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration and a member of this Board to receive the railroad and property of the Jacksonville, Pensacola and Mobile R. R. Company from Robert Walker, Esq., the receiver appointed by the Supreme Court of the United States in the case of the State of Florida vs. Edward C. Anderson, Jr., et al; and to take the general management of said railroad until the sale thereof of other management can be provided for;

And whereas the Board of Trustees is interested in securing the application of the net income of said railroad to the payment of the debt due from said Company to the said Board, therefore;

Resolved, that Dennis Eagan, the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration be and he is hereby appointed and authorized to represent the interest of the Board of Trustees and to receive the net income and tolls of said railroad until further action shall be taken in the premises.

A communication was received from R. B. Archibald inquiring what assistance the Trustees would render towards the building of a first class railroad from Lake George to Lake Harris or Lake Eustis, which was read and referred to the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

The Treasurer was directed to pay to H. Bisbee, Jr., counsel for the Board, five hundred dollars for services in the State and Federal Courts; also to pay the following bills:

To Edwin Higgins clk. C. C. Duval County for transcript of proceedings in case of Trustees vs. J. P. & M. R. R. Co. to be used in Federal Court Jacksonville, \$135.00.  
To Fred T. Myers

Clerk of Supreme Court costs in case of Trustees I.

I. F. vs. Wm. H. Gleason.....\$8.92

To G. W. Edmondson

To repairs in State Land office.....\$2.25

C. A. COWGILL,  
Compt. & Secretary.

January 10th, 1876.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber.

Present: M. L. Stearns, Governor.

W. A. Cocke, Atty. Gen.

C. H. Foster, Treas.

C. A. Cowgill, Compt.

A communication was presented from Wm. H. Ludlow requesting the time for the delivery of the deed of lands to Reverdy Johnson and the payment of the draft might be further extended, whereupon it was Resolved,

That the Governor and Commissioner of Lands are hereby authorized to extend the time for the payment of the draft drawn by them on the Hon. Reverdy Johnson to the 1st day of April next.

C. A. COWGILL,  
Secretary.

January 13th, 1876.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber.

Present: M. L. Stearns, Gov.

Wm. A. Cocke, Atty. Genl.

D. Eagan, Comr. of Lands.

C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.

An application was received from Joseph Dallas requesting the cancellation of entry of N. W. qr of S. E. qr & E $\frac{1}{2}$  of S. E $\frac{1}{2}$  of S. 17 in T. 1, S. R. 5 E. & the refunding of the purchase money amounting to \$95.94-100, stating that he had been misled by false information into making an erroneous entry and desired to have it cancelled in order that he might purchase another tract being the one originally desired to be purchased & on motion it was resolved that the purchase of said land conveyed by deed No. 6793 be cancelled and the Treasurer be directed to refund to the said Joseph Dallas the purchase money \$——, as aforesaid stated.

An account of M. L. Stearns Governor & D. Eagan Com. of Lands & Im. for \$550 for expenses as a committee directed to proceed to N. York on business for Trustees in July 1875 for five hundred & fifty dollars was presented & allowed & the Treasurer directed to pay it.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That Wm. A. Cocke be & he is hereby employed as counsel to represent the Trustees in the application made or to be made by the St. Johns Railway Co. in the Courts of the State to compel the Trustees to make deeds to the said Company for the odd numbered sections of land adjoining said road.

Mr. S. B. McLin made application for the purchase of certain tracts of land lying in T. 21 & 22 R. 32 & T. 23 R. 35 also T. 22 R. 29—& 22 & 23 of R. 30 being about three thousand acres at 60 cents per acre, & on motion, the application was granted.

C. A. COWGILL,  
Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, Friday, January 21st, 1876.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber upon the call of the Governor.

Present: M. L. Stearns, Gov.  
C. H. Foster, Treas.  
C. A. Cowgill, Secty.

Minutes of last meeting read & approved.

A communication was received from J. D. Stanberry Attorney for H. S. Sanford, requesting that the Trustees should cancel the sale of Lot 1, S. 18 T. 7 S. R. 20 E. made Nov. 10, 1875, to William Bradford on the ground that the land did not belong to the Trustees but to private parties who derived their title from the Spanish Government which was read and considered and on motion the Secretary was directed to reply to the said communication, That the request can not be complied with as the Trustees have no power to revoke a sale of land made by them without the consent of the purchaser and also to express the regret of the Board that any action of theirs should apparently infringe upon the rights of other parties.

On motion the Treasurer was directed to pay to H. Bisbee, Jr., counsel five hundred dollars on account of services in the State & Federal Courts.

Tallahassee, February 5, 1876.

A meeting of the Trustees was held in the office of the Treasurer upon the call of the Governor.

Present: C. H. Foster, Treas.  
Dennis Eagan, C. L. & I.  
C. A. Cowgill, Compt.

On motion it was unanimously ordered That the Treasurer be & he is hereby directed to pay to W. A. Cocke two hundred dollars on account of services as Attorney of the Board in the case of the St. Johns Railway Company vs. The Trustees.

Mess. Williams & Swann agents for sale of land presented an account of \$62.70, commissions on sales during the month of January, which was allowed and the Treasurer directed to pay it.

C. A. COWGILL,  
Secretary.

Monday, February 17th, 1876.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber upon the call of the Governor.

Present: M. L. Stearns, Governor.  
W. A. Cocke, Atty. Genl.  
D. Eagan, C. L. & I.  
C. H. Foster, Treas.

In the absence of the Secretary C. H. Foster was appointed Secretary pro tem.

The Governor presented a communication from Jackson, Lawton & Bassenger & T. W. Brevard, Walker & Baker Solicitors of E. C. Anderson et al., which was read as follows, viz:—

Tallahassee, Fla.,  
Feb. 11, 1876.

To His Excellency Governor Stearns et al. Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida:

Gentlemen:—

We are the solicitors of record of E. C. Anderson et al. holders of the bonds of the Pensacola, Georgia and Tallahassee Railroad Companies, who obtained a decree in the Circuit Court of the United States for the sale



of the lines of Railroad formerly owned by those companies.

As we understand the opinion and decree of the Supreme Court of the United States, that Court has decided that you have a vendor's lien on the Jacksonville, Pensacola and Mobile Railroad for the sum of \$472,000, with interest, for the balance of the purchase money due on the sale of said roads made by your predecessors on March 20, 1869; that said vendor's lien has precedence over the 4,000,000, of mortgage bonds held by the State in exchange for an equal number of its own bonds; that it is your absolute duty to proceed against said property for the collection of said sum; that when said collection shall be made it will be your duty to pay, first, the arrears of interest due on the P. & G. bonds; secondly, such of said bonds as are due; thirdly, the interest and bonds as they shall hereafter fall due, unless you purchase up and retire said bonds; fourthly, that nothing in said decree is intended to preclude said P. & G. bondholders to demand and receive from the State of Florida or the said Trustees, out of the proceeds of said property the principal and interest which may now be or may hereafter become due on their bonds.

We respectfully ask that you inform in writing, without delay, whether you hold in all particulars, the same views of the true meaning of the said opinion and decree of the Supreme Court of the United States that we have above expressed, and if not, that you will state in what particular or particulars you differ from said views.

It has been intimated to us that you will not consider it your duty to make sale of the property, or to take any steps whatever against the property to raise the amount necessary to pay the arrears of interest. Indeed in your bill filed in the Supreme Court of the United States one of your prayers was that said court would "further decree that said defendants, as such bondholders must exhaust the trust fund (the Internal Improvement Fund) aforesaid, before they have any equity to have recourse to said Railroad Companies for the payment of the principal of interest of said bonds."

We take quite a different view of the meaning of the language which has been used by the Supreme Court.

We think our clients have a right to demand of you

the immediate payment in cash of the principal and interest which are now due to them upon their bonds as well the interest which fell due prior, as the interest which has fallen due subsequently to the sale of March 20, 1869.

Accordingly we respectfully make demand of the amount so due.

We think it but just to our clients that all issues of the kind referred to, arising under the recent opinion and decree of the Supreme Court of the United States, should be fully disposed of before the property shall pass from the hands of the receiver. And as you are the Trustees of our clients on whom the law has imposed the duty of collecting their money and paying it over to them, we beg that you will at your earliest convenience communicate fully your views to us, their Attorneys, answering fully our questions, and stating fully your own views and intentions. We are the more earnest in the request that you will give a prompt answer to this application, because of the fact that we may find it necessary, should you differ from us in the views above expressed, to seek protection for our clients, in the enjoyment of what we believe to be their rights, from the Supreme Court itself on Monday, the 28 inst.

We have the honor to be respectfully, your obedient servants.

(Signed)

JACKSON, LAWTON & BASSENGER  
T. W. BREVARD.  
WALKER & BAKER.

On motion the Governor was directed to reply to said letter as follows, by the following vote:

Yeas—Messrs. Stearns, Eagan and Foster.

Nays—Mr. Cocke.

Tallahassee, Fla., Feby. 17, 1876.

Jackson, Lawton & Bassenger, Walker & Baker, T. W.

Brevard, Solicitors of P. & G. bondholders.

Gentlemen:

Your communication of the 11th inst., addressed to the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida, has been received, and I am directed by the Board to answer as follows:

This is the first communication we have received from you or any representatives of the bonds held by your clients since we have been in office. After four years of

litigation, in which your clients have persistently opposed us in every effort we have made to discharge our duties to them and to the State, we are gratified to hear from you directly, but regret that your first communication should threaten further litigation.

You ask us to give you an interpretation of the decree of the Supreme Court of the United States rendered in the State v. Edward C. Anderson et al, (in which this Court expressly says we are not litigants before it,) and if we do not interpret it as you do, you will this the ground for further litigation.

We are informed from an affidavit made by Daniel P. Holland on the 14th of January last, and filed in the case above stated that Henry R. Jackson, Esq., who claims to represent the most of said bonds, proposes to consent to the delivery of the Railroad to Mr. Holland and to give him a term of years to pay your clients demands.

Therein, again you appear to be opposing us in the performance of our duties and in our efforts to subject the Railroad property to the payment of the demands we hold against it.

This appears to us very strange and inexplicable. No one has any authority to intimate that we do not intend to proceed to obtain satisfaction of the vendor's lien for the balance of the purchase money.

It is within your knowledge that we have already obtained a judgment in the Circuit Court of Duval County against your opposition for such purchase money, and we have to add that we are only waiting the discharge of the receiver now in possession of the road to proceed to obtain satisfaction of said judgment.

When the said moneys are collected, if we shall refuse to pay over to you any portion to which you deem yourselves entitled, we presume you will have a right to resort to legal proceedings to test your asserted rights.

We desire to say further that our Attorney informs us that you have advised and solicited the Jacksonville, Pensacola & Mobile Railroad Company to prosecute an appeal from this judgment above mentioned, and that you stated before the Federal Court at Jacksonville last May that you were informed such appeal would be prosecuted, which would further obstruct us in the collection of the money which is ultimately to be paid to your clients.

Having opposed us for several years in all our efforts to collect the money with which alone your claims can be satisfied, you now make an indefinite demand upon us for money (which you alone have prevented us from collecting) before the Railroad property is delivered up, and before we have had any time to obtain the fruits of the litigation, by which your opposition to us has been defeated.

In conclusion we have to say that we intend to discharge our entire duties in the administration of the trust confided to us, and the sooner you cease to oppose us, the sooner we shall be able to collect the moneys with which to pay your just demands.

We should much prefer to have your aid than your opposition.

I am respectfully, yr obt. servant,

M. L. STEARNS,

Governor and President Board of Trustees.

The following accounts were presented and allowed, and the Treasurer directed to pay them:

Gov. M. L. Stearns expenses incurred in trips to Jacksonville on business for the Board, \$140.00.

To

L. G. Dennis, Timber Agent, expenses incurred in discharge of his duties in the month of December and November \$135.00.

And in the month of January \$61.00.

The Board then adjourned.

CHAS. H. FOSTER,

Secretary pro tem.

Tallahassee, Monday, February 21, 1876.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber.

Present all the members.

Thos. H. Wagstaff, President of the West Florida & Mobile Railroad Company, appeared before the Board and stated that the Company were now prepared to commence survey of the road and requested that an extension of time for the completion of the survey might be granted whereupon the following resolution was unanimously adopted, viz:

Whereas, the West Florida and Mobile Railroad Company, owing to circumstances beyond their control, have not completed the survey of the said road and filed copies thereof within the time limited in the contract made and executed between the said Company and this Board on the first day of June, 1875, and whereas the said Company have satisfactorily explained to this Board the reasons for said default and asked that further time be allowed now therefore Resolved, that the time limited in said contract for the completion and filing of the survey which was six months from the date of said contract be and the same is hereby extended until the first day of June A. D. 1876.

The Governor presented a letter from Wm. H. Ludlow dated Feb. 14, 1876, in which the announcement of the death of the Hon. Reverdy Johnson was made and it was further stated that this would not interrupt the negotiations in England for the sale of the 3,000,000 acres of land which had been intrusted to Mr. Johnson.

C. A. COWGILL, Secty.

Monday, March 13, 1876..

A meeting of the Trustees was held in the Executive Chamber.

Present Gov. Stearns, Attorney Gen. Cocke, & Comptroller Cowgill.

The Governor presented a letter from L. K. Lippincott Acting Commissioner of Lands requesting from the Trustees relinquishment of title to  $S\frac{1}{2}$  of N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  &  $S\frac{1}{2}$  of N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 4 T 14 S. R. 15 E. said land having been erroneously patented to the State after having been located by Silas Week with M. B. L. W. which was read and referred to Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

The following Resolution was unanimously adopted.

Resolved That H. Bisbee the Attorney of the Board be instructed to apply to the U. S. Supreme Court for an order upon the Receiver of the J. P. & Mobile R. R. directing him to pay over to the Trustees of the I. I. Fund all funds



remaining in his hands, after paying the necessary expenses of said Receivership.

C. A. COWGILL,  
Secretary.

Thursday, March 30th, 1876.

The Trustees met in the office of the Attorney General.

Present: Attorney General Cocke.  
Commissioner Eagan.  
Comptroller Cowgill.

On motion

Mr. Wm. A. Cocke was appointed chairman.

A bill from Williams & Corley agents for sale of land for \$332.74 commission on the sale of \$3,327.41-100 made during the month of February was received & allowed & the Treasurer directed to pay it.

C. A. COWGILL,  
Comptroller.

Wednesday April 12, 1876.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber.

Present: M. L. Stearns, Governor.  
Dennis Eagan, C. L. & I.  
C. H. Foster, Treas.  
C. A. Cowgill, Comptroller.

Minutes of last meetings read & approved.

A communication was received from Martin Klein of No. 6 Williams Block, Detroit, Michigan, in which he requested that 30,000 acres of land up the Caloosahatchie river on both sides from Ft. Thompson should be sold to him at 10 cents per acre, for the purpose of settling a colony of Alsations, said communication was read and referred to the Commissioner of Lands for report.

An application was received from Messrs. Williams, Swann & Corley applying for a deed to be made to Francis J. Lynch of Orange Co. for 40 acres of land purchased by said Lynch from them as agents of the Court and on motion it was

Resolved That the above application be referred to the Commissioner of Lands and if he finds that the money for this land has been paid to the Treasurer then the Salesman will make the deed as requested.

An application was received from J. B. Fitzpatrick to purchase 2420 acres of saw grass swamp in T. 18 S. R. 27, E. at a reduced rate, the rate not being specified, which was referred to the Commissioner of Lands.

A communication was received from L. K. Lippincott Actg. Comm. of Land at Washington, D. C., asking the relinquishment by the Trustees of title to S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 19 & N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 29 T. 14 S. R. 28 E. erroneously patented to the State which was referred to the Commissioner of Lands.

A communication was received from John W. Lane for himself and associates, asking for sale of 50,000 acres of land at ten cents per acre to be selected in alternate sections within a radius of twenty miles from said river, conditioned upon the rendering of the Withlacoochee navigable to Lake Panasofkee, which was read and the Secretary was instructed to inform Mr. Lane, that the Trustees declined the proposition, owing to the embarrassments surrounding them caused by the various suits brought against them by F. Vose, Esq.

A communication received from Mr. Boyd of Clifton Place Volusia Co. desiring to know upon what terms overflowed swamp lands belonging to the State may be drained, occupied and title obtained, and the Secretary was directed to answer that no general principle had been adopted concerning the drainage of the swamp lands and the embarrassments surrounding us owing the litigation in which we were involved, prevented us from adopting such a system.

A communication was received from B. R. Wilson of Land Point, Florida, requesting that entries of land made by Joseph Barring & Elbert Carter in T. 20 & 21 S. R. 35 E. might be cancelled & the money refunded, on the ground that they intended to enter other lands than those purchased, and the Secretary was directed to answer that the Trustees declined to comply with the request as it would be a precedent if established and followed would give rise to great trouble and confusion of records.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved that C. H. Foster be and he is hereby directed to investigate the propriety of making new contract for improving the navigation of Peace Creek and to make an estimate of the probable expenses attending the deepening of the channel & removing obstructions to Fort Meade so as to admit boats drawing 2 feet of water at all times.

It was unanimously

Resolved that the contract made with Ray & Eaton of Washington, D. C., in accordance with a resolution of this Board passed April 20, 1875, by which he was authorized & employed to prosecute in the name of the Trustees a claim against the United States for extra compensation for freight & passengers carried by the Pensacola & Georgia R. R. Co., for the United States in 1865-6, be and the same is hereby rescinded and that the said Ray & Eaton be instructed to withdraw said claim as heretofore made by the Trustees.

The Secretary informed the Trustees that he had received notice from Jackson, Lawton & Bassenger Attorneys for F. Vose, Esq., that they intended to apply to Judge Frazer for an order upon the Receiver to pay their fees as Attorneys and also the expenses incurred by Mr. Vose in attending to the suit brought by him against the Trustees, & said communications were referred to the Governor with directions that he take the necessary steps to resist the said applications.

The following accounts were presented & the Treasurer directed to pay them.

|                                                                                  |          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Williams & Corley commissions on sales for month of March .....                  | \$361.64 |
| L. G. Dennis Timber Agent expenses for month of February .....                   | 70.00    |
| L. G. Dennis salary for six months ending Jany 1, 1876 .....                     | 300.00   |
| C. A. Cowgill, expenses in taking funds to Receiver for term of Dec. & Feby..... | 25.00    |
| F. F. Myers, exp. in taking Funds to Receiver for month of January & March.....  | 16.00    |

C. A. COWGILL,  
Secretary.

Tallahassee, May 3rd, 1876.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber.

Present: M. L. Stearns, Governor.  
Dennis Eagan, C. L. & I.  
W. A. Cocke, Atty. General.  
C. H. Foster, Treasurer.

C. H. Foster was elected Secretary pro tem.

Mr. Eagan Commissioner of L. & I. reported that the lands described in the communication from L. K. Lippincott Acty, Comr. dated Washington, D. C., Feby. 17th, requesting relinquishment of apparent title by the State, being the S $\frac{1}{2}$  of N. E $\frac{1}{4}$  & S $\frac{1}{2}$  of N. W $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 4 T. 14 S. R. 15 E. were deeded by the State to E. N. Dickerson June 1, 1867 and the Secretary was directed to inform the Acting Commissioner of this fact.

A communication was received from J. A. Lee Register U. S. Land office addressed to Hon. Dennis Eagan C. of L. & I. which was read as follows:

U. S. Land office,  
Gainesville, Florida.  
28th March 1876.

Hon. Dennis Eagan,

C. of L. & I., Tallahassee, Florida.

Sir—

An affidavit of contest has been filed in this office by Thomas Fisher of Hillsborough county, contesting the claim of the State of Florida to the S $\frac{1}{2}$  of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of S. 15, T. 29 S. of R. 18 E. alleging that no part thereof is swamp land or subject to overflow, that it is high, dry and arable land, we therefore have appointed the 25th day of May next 1876 for a hearing in order to ascertain the validity of the claim of the State of Florida to said land under the act of the 28th of September 1850, selected 5th of July 1855 as swamp land.

Very respectfully,

J. A. LEE,  
Register.

This communication was referred to the Attorney General with instructions to protect the interests of the State.

The following bills were presented, & allowed & the Treasurer directed to pay the same, viz:

9 I. I.

|                                                                                                                 |          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| W. L. Apthorp for surveying instruments furnished to Land office .....                                          | \$ 39 80 |
| Williams & Corley Commissions on sale of Lands made in April .....                                              | 143 20   |
| H. Bisbee, Jr., expenses incurred & services rendered in case of State & Trustees vs. E. C. Anderson et al..... | 1048 00  |
| The Board then adjourned.                                                                                       |          |

CHAS. H. FOSTER,  
Secretary pro tem.

Thursday, May 11th, 1876.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber.

Present all the members.

Mr. Vose made a proposition to purchase fifty thousand acres of land at 50 cents per acre less the commissions allowed to agents, the amount to be credited upon his judgment against the Fund, other holders of judgment to be allowed to enter a pro rata amount upon the same terms and it was

Resolved, That the Trustees decline to comply with the proposition.

The Attorney General, to whom was referred the communication from J. A. Lee Register of U. S. Land Office concerning claims of Thomas Fisher to certain S. & overflowed lands submitted the following report:

To His Excellency,

M. L. Stearns, ex-officio President of Trustees I. I. Fund.

Sir:

The enclosed letter from J. A. Lee Register U. S. Land office at Gainesville was referred to me by a vote of the Trustees.

It is my opinion that the claim of Thomas Fisher is worthless.

The lands belong by law to the Internal Improvement Fund.

1st. By virtue of an act of Congress 28th of Sept. 1850.

2nd. These lands were selected as appears by the notice which is evidence of the fact on the 5 day of July, 1855.



Having been selected by the State on that date as swamp & overflowed lands the title to the same is confirmed to the State by an act of Congress March 3rd, 1857.

Very respectfully,

WM. A. COCKE,  
Atty. General.

H. A. Corley returned to the Board the power of Attorney & other papers given to Reverdy Johnson to sell lands in large quantities in England and said papers were ordered to be cancelled & filed.

The following preamble & resolution was unanimously adopted, viz:—

Whereas, George Somerville Norris of the commercial firm of Norris & Brother of Baltimore, Maryland, has been recommended to us as eminently qualified to aid in the negotiation of sales of lands for the purpose of paying off and discharging the liabilities of the Internal Improvement Fund, and has consented to act as our Agent in the premises, Therefore

Be it Resolved by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, That the said George Somerville Norris be and he is hereby appointed the Agent of this Board to negotiate sales of the lands belonging to the Internal Improvement Fund granted to the State by the act of Congress of September 28th, 1850, lying east of the Apalachicola river *provided* the quantity of land sold by him as such agent shall not be less than one million of acres, nor more than three million of acres, such sales to be made within six months from date and on the following terms. If less than two millions of acres be sold by said Agent the amount to be paid therefor into the Internal Improvement Fund shall be twenty eight cents per acre free from all charges and expenses.

If two million acres or more be sold the amount to be paid therefor into the Internal Improvement Fund shall be twenty five cents per acre free from all charges and expenses, the lands that may be sold by said Agent to be selected by the purchasers thereof in tracts containing not less than one hundred thousand acres of contiguous land. In making such selections tracts shall be considered contiguous, which are not separated by other lands belonging to the Fund that is to say, where

two tracts of land belonging to the Fund are separated by other lands, they shall for the purposes aforesaid be considered contiguous tracts.

Be it further resolved, that the Board will execute such papers as may be necessary to show the authority of said agent to represent the Trustees in the premises.

Be it further Resolved, That His Excellency M. L. Stearns Governor & Hon. Dennis Eagan Commissioner of Lands & Immigration are hereby appointed a committee of this Board to make the arrangements necessary to carry out all matters connected with this appointment or to result from any sales that may be made by our said Agent.

The Trustees executed the appointment of Mr. Norris as Agent, also a deed, said deed to be placed in escrow with Prexel & Co., of New York & London.

A proposition was received from A. W. Leonard of Orange county to purchase all the unentered lands in Sections 15, 17, 20, 21, 22, 28, 29, T. 2 R. 29, for 10 cents per acre, which was read and consideration postponed.

Peter Munro of Putnam county applied for cancellation of deed & refunding of purchase money, ninety dollars, paid for N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of S. 21, T. 10 S., R. 26 E. & S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  and N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of S. 21, T. 10 S., R. 26 E., the said land not belonging to the Fund but to the U. S. Government being in the Palatka Military reservation & having been since occupied as homestead under the United States laws, and the Salesman was directed to cancel the sale & the Treasurer to refund the purchase money, if the facts were found to be as above stated.

The Secretary & Treasurer a committee appointed November 16, 1874, to prepare a list of bonds & coupons turned over to the Trustees by Moses Taylor, reported that they had prepared said list soon after they were appointed, but had neglected to formally present it & now presented the following report, viz:

The undersigned appointed to make a list of the bonds of the Florida Railroad which was sent by Moses Taylor Esq., to the Trustees, report that they found the bonds cancelled, but some detached coupons were not cancelled These have been cancelled, & the bonds & coupons are numbered as follows, viz:

Nos. 48, 49, 64, 65, 66, 67, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, & 79, each with 60 coupons attached, the first coupon due Sept. 1, 1861, and

Nos. 144, 145 & 146, with 56 coupons attached to each, the first due Sept. 1, 1863, and

Nos. 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 379, 380, 381, 434, 435 & 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 519, 520, 532, 533, 534, 535, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 787, 788, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 1250, 1251, 1252, 1253, 1254, 1255, 1256, 1257, 1258 and 1259, with 60 coupons attached to each, the first coupon being due Sept. 1, 1861, and.....

.....Nos. 1260, 1261, 1262, 1263, 1264, 1265, 1266, 1267, 1268, 1269, 1270, 1271, 1272, 1273 and 1274 with 50 coupons attached to each, the first due Sept. 1, 1866, and.....

Nos. 1300, 1301, 1302, 1303, 1304 with 49 coupons attached to each, the first having become due March 1, 1867, and .....

Nos 1318, 1319, 1320, 1321, 1322, 1323, 1324, 1325, 1326, 1327, each with sixty one coupons attached, the first being due March 1st, 1861, and.....

Nos. 1336, 1337, with forty-nine coupons attached, the first due March 1, 1867, and .....

.....1382, 1383, 1384, 1385, 1386, 1387, 1388, 1389, 1390, 1391, 1392, 1393, with 61 coupons attached to each, the first being due March 1st 1861, and..

..... 1394, 1395, 1396, 1397, 1398, 1399, 1400, 1401, 1402, & 1403. with fifty eight coupons attached to each bearing date from 1st of March 1861, to 1st September A. D. 1865, and from 1st of September A. D. 1867, to end, the three from 1st Sept. 1865 to 1st Sept. 1867 not being attached and.....

..... Nos. 1404, 1405, 1406, 1407, 1408, 1409, 1410 & 1411, with 61 coupons attached, the first having fallen due March 1st 1861, and.....

.....Nos. 1412, 1413, 1414, 1415, 1416, 1417, with sixty coupons attached, the first having fallen due Sept. 1, 1861, and.....

..... Nos. 1418, 1419, 1420 & 1425  
with 61 coupons attached the first having become due  
March 1, 1861, and..... No. 1422 with  
56 coupons attached, the first having fallen due Sept. 1,  
1863 and

COUPONS detached from bonds, there being  
no bonds corresponding to the coupons as follows, viz:  
From Bonds Nos. 441, 442 & 443 one coupon each bearing  
date March 1st, 1861, and .....  
from bonds Nos. 445, 446 eleven coupons dated Sept. 1,  
1861, to Sept. 1, 1866 and from bonds.....  
No. 447 ten coupons dated from Sept. 1, 1861, to March 1,  
1866, and from Bond ..... Nos. 448, 449,  
450, 451, & 472, eleven coupons dated Sept. 1st, 1861, to  
Sept. 1, 1866 and from bonds.....  
from Bond No. 562, 10 coupons dated from Sept. 1861, to  
March 1866, .....  
and from bond No. 563 eleven coupons dated from Sept.  
1861, to September 1866 and.....  
from bond No. 1506 eleven coupons dated from March  
1st, 1861, to March 1866, and.....  
from Bond No. 1507 ten coupons from September 1861, to  
March 1866 and .....  
from Bond No. 1508, one coupon dated March 1861, and  
..... from Bond No. 1510 ten  
coupons dated from Sept. 1861, to March 1866 and.....  
..... from Bonds Nos. 1511 & 1512 eleven  
coupons dated from March 1861 to March 1866 and....  
..... from Bonds 1513 & 1516 ten coupons  
from Sept. 1861, to March 1866, and.....  
from Bond No. 1517 eleven coupons, dated from March  
1861 to March 1866, and,.....  
from Bond 1518, ten coupons dated from Sept. 1861, to  
March, 1866, and..... from  
bond 1519 one coupon dated March 1861, and.....  
from bonds Nos. 1520, 1522 & 1524 ten coupons dated from  
Sept. 1861, to March 1866, .....  
and that the said bonds and coupons have been delivered  
to the Treasurer and are in his custody. All of which is  
respectfully submitted.

C. A. COWGILL,  
CHARLES. H. FOSTER.

The following communication was presented and read  
and ordered filed.

To the Trustees of the International Improvement Fund of the State of Florida.

I have the honor in behalf and by direction of the Atlantic, Gulf & West India Transit Company to give you notice as required by the fourth section of the act entitled "An Act to Amend an act Incorporating the Florida Railroad Company" approved December 14th 1855, that it is the purpose of the company to set off to persons desirous of constructing the same and adopting the name of the Peninsular Railway Company, that portion of their line which lies between Waldo (the junction with the Cedar Key extension) and Ocala on the route to the waters of Tampa, and which part of the line is the same of which the map of survey was filed on the 3rd day of January, 1860.

Signed

D. L. YULEE,  
V. P. & acting President.

Attest:

JOHN HODGES, Sec.

April 25, 1876.

Mr. Eagan, C. of L. & I. reported that the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 19 & NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 29 T. 14 S. R. 28 E. had not been sold and as this land was erroneously patented to the State, it was

Resolved, That the Trustees relinquish the title of the Fund to said lands as requested by the Commissioner of the U. S. General Land office in his communication of March 27th.

The following bill was allowed:

To G. D. Mills Agt. W. U. Telegraph Co.,

To 2 telegrams ..... \$2.15

No further business the board adjourned.

C. A. COWGILL.

(On page 302. vol. 2, of the Original Record Book of the Proceedings of the Trustees, opposite the conclusion of the report of Messrs. Cowgill and Foster, committee to examine bonds, etc., appears the following certificate:)

"I hereby certify that I have this day examined and compared the canceled Bonds and Coupons of the Florida Railroad Company turned over to me in January last by



C. H. Foster, late Treasurer of the Internal Improvement Fund, with the list recorded on pages 297, 299, 301, 303 of the Record Book of the proceedings of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, and find the same to correspond with said list.

“(Signed)

WALTER GWYNN,

Treasurer.

“Tallahassee, Florida, July 19, 1877.”

Thursday, May 18th, 1876.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber.

Present: Gov. M. L. Stearns.

Treas. C. H. Foster.

Atty. Genl. W. A. Cocke.

Compt. C. A. Cowgill.

A communication was received from Dr. Westcott, which was read as follows, viz:

Tallahassee, Aug. 18th, 1876.

To the Board of Trustees of the I. I. Fund of Florida.

Gentlemen: A corporation under the laws of Florida has been formed and filed with the Secretary of State, under the name and style of the “No Gauge or Single Rail, Railroad and Construction Company of Florida” and especially for constructing a railroad from Orange Lake in Marion county to the Oclawaha river. By the terms of the articles of association P. P. Bishop, John Westcott, J. J. Daniel, C. Drew, H. L. Hart, James A. Harris and Thomas Shally are now directors and P. P. Bishop is President.

In consideration of the great improvement that will take place in the value of the State Land near the said railroad by drainage as well as making it more accessible to visit and examination and for the transportation of produce and merchandise, and as encouragement to construct a cheaper class of Railway as claimed by patents to John Westcott for constructing a new and improved permanent railroad the undersigned as agent and engineer for said Company in behalf of the President and directors, most respectfully makes the following request in relation thereto.

That the Trustees for and in consideration of the above premises and the sum of ten cents per acre do sell to the said corporation every forty acre lot of land that the line of railroad passes through or touches on any of its boun-

dary and that the Trustees reserve the following lands from sale for a reasonable length of time for making the requisite surveys and location of the line of railroad and for making sale of the remainder of the stock of said corporation, viz:

The south  $\frac{1}{2}$  of S. 18 & the N.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of S. 19 T. 12 R. 24 S & E, also the N.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of S. 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 & 24 of T. 12 R 23 S. & E. also N.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of S. 24 T. 12 R. 22 S. & E.

Respectfully yours,

JOHN WESTCOTT,

Authorized Agent of sd. Corporation.

The foregoing communication was considered and the following resolution adopted:

"Resolved, That the Trustees will sell to the "No Gauge or Single Rail Railroad & Construction Company of Florida" all the swamp & overflowed lands contained in each forty acre subdivision through which the road to be constructed by the said company from Orange Lake to the Oclawaha river shall pass, at the rate of 10 cents per acre, provided that any forty acres at present occupied by an actual settler shall not be sold to said Company unless said settler shall decline to purchase from the Trustees the land so occupied by him, and provided that said road is completed within six months from this date, and the salesman is hereby directed to withhold from sale for a period of six months all such 40 acre lots as are touched by said road as shown by the plat of the route thereof, as ascertained by actual survey, to be filed in the office of the Commissioner of Lands & Immigration within thirty days.

The Attorney General presented the following letter from J. A. Lee, Register.

United States Consolidated Land Office,  
Gainesville, May 16, 1876.

Wm. A. Cocke,

Dear Sir: Yours of 9th inst. is to hand and in reply will state that the contest case Thomas ~~Flower~~ vs. the State of Florida has been dismissed for the present and will be referred to the Commissioner and it should come up again the State will be duly notified.

Yrs. Very Respectfully,

J. ~~LEE~~,  
Register.

The following bills were allowed & the Treas. directed to pay them.

to W. A. Cocke for professional opinion in case of Thos. Fisher vs. The Trustees, \$30.00.

M. L. Stearns for expenses incurred in visiting Washington, two trips on business for the Trustees & self & their members of the Board to Jacksonville in February, 385.00

No further business the Board adjourned.

C. A. COWGILL, Secretary.

Tuesday, June 6th, 1876.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber.

Present all the members.

A proposition was received from the Jacksonville, St. Augustine & Indian River Railroad & Navigation Company to purchase all lands lying between the ocean and St. Johns river at .... cents per acre conditioned upon the building a railroad from Jacksonville to Halifax or Indian rivers & a canal thence through Indian River, which was read and discussed & consideration thereof postponed.

The following proposition was received from W. W. Hicks and J. B. Fitzpatrick.

We the undersigned make the following proposition to the Honorable Board of Trustees Int. Imp. Fund, for the lands (Swamp and Overflowed) as per accompanying map, to wit:

1st. To pay ten (10) cents per acre for the above tract.

2nd. We obligate to drain and recover one half of the tract within twelve months from date of possession and the whole of it within two years.

Signed WM. WATKINS HICKS.

J. B. FITZPATRICK.

These being the same lands applied for by Mr. Fitzpatrick on April 12, 1876 and the application having been referred to Mr. Eagan and Mr. Eagan having reported that the lands were mostly saw grass ponds completely overflowed and of no value without drainage, it was

Resolved, That the lands be sold Messrs. Hicks and Fitzpatrick at 10 cents per acre.

An application was received from Jemimah Cason for the refunding of \$20.11-100 amt. paid for S. W. 1-4 of S. W. 1-4 of S. 4 in T. 10 S. of R. 26 E. said land not being the property of the Fund, and was erroneously sold to her August 5th, 1867, which was read and referred to Commissioner of L. & Immigration.

Account of Williams & Corley, Agents for sale of land for May for \$293.12 was allowed.

C. A. COWGILL,  
Secretary.

Saturday, July 15th, 1876.

The Trustees met upon a call of the majority of the Board in the office of Commissioner of Lands & Im.

Present: Attorney General W. A. Cocke.  
Treas. C. H. Foster.  
Com. of L. & I. D. Eagan.  
Comptroller C. A. Cowgill.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

The following entries of land were ordered to be cancelled and the Treasurer directed to refund the purchase money to the respective parties.

To Jemimah Cason.

Purchase money paid for the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of S. 4 in T. 10 S. of R. 26 E. forty 21-100 acres at fifty cents per acre, said land being in military reservation around Palatka and did not nor does not belong to the U. States, \$20.10.

To Mrs. Flora C. Porter

Purchase money paid for Lot No. 4 of S. 21 west of St. Johns River T. 10 S. of R. 27 E. said land lying in the Palatka military reservation, \$72.19-100.

To Benjamin O. Grenad.

Purchase money paid for E $\frac{1}{2}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of S. 2 T. 20 S. R. 21 E. & SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of S. 36 in T. 19 S. R. 21 E. said land having been erroneously sold, they being the property of the United States, \$113.90.

And to Mrs. Mary Ann Newsom.

Money paid for SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 22 T. 24 S. R. 30 E. containing 40 acres, she having been misled by the County Surveyor and selected a piece not covering her improvements, \$40.

And to Abel Platt

Money paid for Lot No. 4, S. 12 T. 20 S. R. 26 E. the said lot having been previously sold to S. B. Conover, \$56.16.

The Secretary reported that on June 22, 1876, he had received a communication from Hon. D. L. Yulee V. P. & Acting P. of the A. G. & W. I. T. Co., enclosing lists of the lands contained in the odd sections lying within six miles of the located line of the Company's road between Waldo and Ocala which are claimed as belonging to the Company by virtue of S. 15 of the I. I. Act.

List A containing lands remaining under control of the Trustees and List B contains those that have been sold by the Trustees and for which the Company will be willing to accept some equitable equivalent.

The communication was read and ordered filed. The secretary having previously acknowledged the reception of the communication.

The Commissioner of Lands & I. informed the Trustees that patents had issued from the United States to the ..... for ..... acres of land selected by Williams, Swann & Corley and offered the following resolution which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the salesman be instructed to bring into market the Internal Improvement and swamp lands recently appraised lying in the vicinity of Pease Creek and Caloosahatchie river after giving public notice thereof by advertisement for four weeks in the following papers, ..... and to cause such notice to issue in circular form to be distributed through that section of the State where the lands are located.

Resolved, That persons who have settled or cultivated any of said lands shall have the prior right to enter the lands embracing their improvements, provided they shall apply to enter the same on or before the first day of November, and all entries made before that time embracing the residence or cultivated lands of another shall be set aside upon the application of the settler with proof thereof, if made within the time as above limited.



The Commissioner of Lands presented a communication from Wm. L. Apthorp setting forth the torn, dirty and mutilated condition of the township plats in the office of the salesman and the necessity of their speedy renewal, and offered to make as many new maps, (probably 1000) as might be necessary, upon the best paper mounted on muslin for \$2.50 per map, and upon personal inspection it being apparent to the Trustees that said new maps were essentially necessary it was unanimously

Resolved, That the Commissioner of Lands & Immigration be authorized to contract with Mr. Apthorp for such new maps as may be required not to exceed one thousand, upon the terms mentioned in the communication received from Mr. Apthorp.

Hon. C. H. Foster made a report of his investigations into the propriety and feasibility of making a new contract for deepening the channel of Pease Creek under resolution of April 12, 1876, which was read and ordered to be filed.

The following accts. were ordered paid.

To William & Corley, Agents for sale of lands, commission on sales for month of June, \$273.48-100.

To C. H. Foster, exp. in conveying fund June 1st to A. Doggett, receiver, \$13.50.

To C. H. Foster expense in trip to Pease Creek, Fort Meade and Bartow, in making investigations into the feasibility of contracting to opening navigation of Pease Creek, \$135.00.

C. A. COWGILL,  
Secretary.

Tallahassee, Nov. 18th.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber upon the call of the Governor.

Present all the members.

The Secretary presented a communication from Williams & Corley asking an extension of time to Mr. Norris Agent for sale of land in large quantities in England.

And C. A. Cowgill moved that an extension be granted until Dec. 31st.

And Mr. Eagan moved to amend the motion by substituting Dec. 1st for Dec. 31st and upon the motion to amend the following vote was had.

Yeas—Messrs. Stearn, Foster and Eagan. 3.

Nays—Messrs. Cocke and Cowgill.

And upon the question of extending the time to Dec. 1st the following vote was had:

Yeas—Messrs. Stearns, Foster, Eagan and Cowgill.

Nays—Mr. Cocke.

So the motion prevailed and the term of sale was extended to Dec. 1st.

Notice was received from W. H. Gleason, Presdt. S. I. N. & I. Co. protesting against the sale by the Trustees of those lands granted to said Company, which was read and referred to the Attorney of the Board.

Acct. of L. G. Dennis, Timber Agent, for expenses during March, 1876, was allowed for \$60.00.

Attest

C. A. COWGILL, Secty.

Wednesday, Nov. 22, 1876.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber upon the call of the President.

Present all the members.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

On motion of C. A. Cowgill it was unanimously resolved that the time for the sale of land in large quantities by Mr. Norris be extended to December the fifteenth.

No further business the Board adjourned.

C. A. COWGILL,

Secretary.

Tallahassee, Dec. 19th, 1876.

The Trustees met in the Executive Chamber upon the call of the Governor.

Present: Gov. M. L. Stearns.

Dennis Eagan, C. of L. & I.

C. H. Foster, Treas.

C. A. Cowgill, Secty.

The Secretary announced that he had notified Attorney General Cocke of the call for the meeting.

The acct. of A. Hernandez, Shf. of St. Johns County for expenses and fees incurred in case of Trustees of I. I. F. of the State of Florida vs. St. Johns Railway for \$76.50 was ordered paid.

The account of Williams & Corley for commission upon sale of lands in the months of July, August, September, October and November for \$621.25 was approved and the Treas. directed to pay them.

Acct. of F. T. Myers for carrying funds, months of July, August and September to the Receiver for \$28.25 was ordered paid.

Acct. of L. B. Foster, Clk. Supreme Court for copy of opinion of Supreme Court in case of State and Trustees vs. J. P. & M. R. R. Co. furnished to Governor, \$22.60.

William H. Denmark purchased from the Trustees in 1861, 39.74-100 acres of land at \$1.25 per acre described as follows: NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of S. 20 T. 11 S. R. 26 E., paying therefor the sum of forty nine dollars and sixty seven cents, and now asks that the said entry may be cancelled and the money refunded to him as the said land never belonged to the I. I. Fund, but to the United States and these facts being substantiated by the endorsement of Mr. Eagan, Comr. of L. & I. it was

Resolved, That the above mentioned entry be cancelled and the sum of \$49.67-100 be refunded to Mr. Denmark.

The Governor presented a letter from N. J. Baxter, Acting Commr. of Land Office at Washington requesting the State to relinquish her claim to certain lands that had been improperly patented to the State, the said land having been previously sold to Moses E. Ley and described as follows:

Lots 1 and 2 S. 18 Fract. Sect. 17 and lot 2 S. 7 all in T. 12 S. R. 22 East, and the communication was referred to the Commr. of Lands

A communication was received from H. Bisbee, Jr., Attorney for the Board, informing the Board that the litigation in the Supreme Court of the United States and in the State Courts touching the liens and trusts held by the State and Trustees is at an end and that the money and funds in the Registry of the Supreme Court U. States had been ordered paid to the Treasurer of the State who was

specially designated to receive it, and requested the Board to order payment of his bills for professional services and expenses out of said fund and presented an itemized account as follows, viz:

Bill of H. Bisbee, Jr., Solicitor.

1876-Dec.

Services and disbursements rendered and made in suits by the State of Florida to enforce liens on railroad property.

|                                                                                                                                                                             |           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| For services in the case of the State of Florida vs. Ed. C. Anderson et al in the Supreme Court of the United States from Nov. 1873 to February 1876.....                   | \$ 15,000 |
| For services rendered in suits of the State vs. J. P. & M. R. R. Co. & Fla. C. R. R. Co. & D. P. Holland et al in State Courts of Fla. from Nov. 1873 to February 1876..... | 6,000     |
| For services and advice from May 15, 1876 to July 15th requiring two trips to Tallahassee                                                                                   | 300       |
| For services rendered in Nov. & Dec. 1876 on motion in the Supreme Court of the U. States for the payment of money in Court to complainants .....                           | 750       |
| For expenses and disbursements incurred & paid as per the itemized bills rendered.....                                                                                      | 1,973 04  |

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\$24,023 04

The following preamble and order was then adopted:

Whereas, It appears that the Supreme Court of the United States in the suit therein prosecuted on behalf of the State and the Board of Trustees of the I. I. Fund against Edward C. Anderson et al. to protect and enforce the lien and trusts held by the State and said Trustees upon the Railroad between Jacksonville and the Chattahoochee river has ordered the money and funds now in the Registry of said Court arising from said litigation paid over to the Treasurer of the State who had been specifically designed to receive the same,

And Whereas, The said moneys and funds less the costs and expenses incurred in conducting the litigation are applicable to the payment of the liens and discharge of the trusts held by the Board of Trustees which have been

judicially declared to be prior to the other lien upon said railroad, held by the Governor of the State as Trustee,

And Whereas, The Treasurer of the State, Chas. H. Foster is also the Treasurer of this Board of Trustees charged with receiving and disbursing the funds and moneys thereof, it is hereby ordered

That Chas. H. Foster, the Treasurer aforesaid upon the receipt of the said funds and moneys do charge himself with the same as Treasurer of this Board, and pay out the same upon the order of the Board.

H. Bisbee, Jr., the solicitor of the Board and of the State having presented his bills for services and disbursements in the litigation to enforce and protect the liens and trusts above mentioned, and it appearing that such bills are properly chargeable upon and payable out of the moneys aforesaid arising from said litigation and that the compensation claimed is reasonable and just, for the services rendered it is ordered that the aggregate sum of twenty-four thousand and twenty-three and 04-100 dollars the total of said bills be paid to H. Bisbee, Jr., by the Treasurer of this Board out of the said moneys upon the receipt of the said H. Bisbee, Jr., and his receipted bills.

C. A. COWGILL,  
Secretary.

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Monday, January 1st, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive Chamber upon the call of the Governor.

Present: M. L. Stearns, Governor.  
D. Eagan, Comr. of L. & I.  
W. A. Cocke, Atty. Genl.  
C. H. Foster, Treas.  
C. A. Cowgill, Compt.

The following accounts were allowed and the Treasurer ordered to pay them.

Commissions to Williams & Corley for sales of land in December, \$184.20.

L. G. Dennis services as Timber Agent for the year 1876, \$600.00.

10 I. I.



To Joseph H. Durkee referee and master in chancery in the suit of State of Florida and the Trustees of I. I. F. vs. the Jacksonville Pensacola & Mobile R. R. Co. to be paid out of fund turned over by Supreme Court arising from the litigation in the case of State and Trustees vs. E. C. Anderson et al., \$2771.95.

To C. H. Foster, State Treasurer for furnishing solicitor with copies of bonds of J. P. and Mobile and Florida Central R. R. Co., \$4.00.

To Dennis Eagan for one copy of Gray's Atlas of the United States for use of Land Office, \$16.50.

To the Tampa Guardian for advertising State lands brought into market, \$10.00.

To Western Union Telegraph Co., \$2.21.

To Wm. L. Apthorp for one wall map of Florida for use of Salesman's office, \$1.25.

To D. Eagan for R. L. Holloway to viewing, appraising and printing descriptive lists of 32,455 acres of land lying in Polk and Manatee counties at 2½ cents per acre as per contract. \$811.37½.

To John R. Stickney to professional services in case of Trustees against James L. Coles & Co. for cutting timber on Trust lands, \$25.00.

To W. L. Apthorp for 777 new township plats furnished under resolution of Board of July 15,, '76, at \$2.50 per plat, \$1942.50.

To J. M. & H. J. Baker, Attorneys, professional services in case of Francis Vose vs. Trustees of I. I. Fund from Oct. 1, 1875, to Dec. 30, 1876, \$500.00.

The following account was presented and read.

The Internal Improvement Fund of Florida:

To M. A. Williams, S. A. Swann & H. A. Corley, Dr.

To compensation for the selection of 896,915 acres of swamp and overflowed lands approved to the State by the Secretary of the Interior under their contract with the Trustees of ..... 1873, at 2 cents per acre payable in lands of the Internal Improvement Fund approved to the State since the date of said contract, \$17,938.50.

The Comptroller offered the following resolution which was read.

Resolved, That the account of Williams, Swann & Corley for the selection of swamp and overflowed lands

amounting to \$17,938.50 be approved and that the said Williams, Swann & Corley be authorized to enter land at the regularly established prices in payment of said account from the lands belonging to the Internal Improvement Fund approved to the State since the day of the execution of the contract appointing them agents.

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Tallahassee, Florida, January 16, 1877.

The Board met.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commr. of Lands and Immigration.

The Board organized with the election of officers as follows:

His Excellency, George F. Drew, President.

Hugh A. Corley, Secretary and Salesman.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

On motion of Mr. Gwynn, the President was authorized to appoint a Committee to draft rules and regulations for the Board, and Messrs. Raney and Corley were appointed to constitute said Committee.

On motion, the bond of the Treasurer was fixed at \$10,000.

Mr. Corley offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Attorney General be requested to examine into, ascertain and report to this Board the relation sustained by the Trustees with respect to any and all matters in litigation before the courts of this State or the United States, wherein this Board or the fund under their charge, are directly or indirectly interested, with such suggestions and recommendations as he may see proper to make for the action of the Board.

Resolved, further, That all appointments by the Board heretofore made of Attorneys to conduct any litigation in behalf of the Trustees, be and the same are hereby revoked—and the Attorney General is alone authorized to represent the Trustees in all the courts, until otherwise ordered at any time hereafter.

Which were read and unanimously adopted.

Mr. Corley offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the preamble and order adopted by the Board of Trustees on the 19th December, 1876, instructing the Treasurer of the State to charge himself as Treasurer of this Board with the moneys and funds in the registry of the U. S. Supreme Court in the case of the State of Florida et al. vs. E. C. Anderson et al., and to pay out of the same the amount of \$24,023.04 to H. Bisbee, Jr., be and the same is hereby rescinded.

Which was read and unanimously adopted.

Mr. Andrew Banks, of Baltimore, Md., presented a proposition to the Board for the purchase of 3,000,000 acres of land, at twenty five cents per acre.

Which was read and postponed until Thursday next.

The Governor laid before the Board a communication addressed to him by Nicholas Serge Wassilieff, setting forth the importance to the State of the establishment of an agency in the City of New York to invite and aid immigration to Florida by the emigrants from Europe. By the invitation of the Trustees, Mr. Wassilieff appeared before them and stated verbally his views and opinions upon the subject and expressed his belief that with proper exertions a large number of the Mennonites in Russia could be induced to settle in Florida. Mr. Wassilieff further expressed his willingness to act as the Agent of the State for that purpose in New York if the State would defray the expenses of such agency.

Whereupon Mr. Raney offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

*Resolved*, That the Legislature of Florida be requested by this Board to pass a law authorizing the Governor to appoint an agent, to be approved by this Board, to reside in New York City, for the purpose of inducing immigration to this State, and appropriate the sum of fifteen hundred dollars per annum to defray the expenses of such agency.

*Resolved*, That the Secretary enclose copies of said resolution to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the Assembly.

The Governor laid before the Board a communication addressed to him by Frank B. Fair, of Reading, Pa., asking a donation of 1280 acres of land in the southern

portion of the State to be appropriated to the location of 100 families from Reading and Philadelphia.

Which was read and referred to the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration for reply.

A letter from J. Berrien Oliver, of New York, suggesting the importance of establishing an Immigration Agency there; another from Col. W. T. Grey of Cincinnati, offering to canvass as an Immigration Agent of the State of Florida free of expense to the State; and others from Capt. Wm. W. Holman of Trappe, Pa., Walter P. Seiberling of Philadelphia, John D. Rather of Tusculum, Ala., and Capt. Frank M. Duffey of Gallatin, Tenn., making inquiries concerning the State, were referred for answer to the Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The Board then adjourned until Thursday, the 18th instant, 11 o'clock a. m.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, January 18, 1877.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commr. of Lands & Immigration.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The proposition of Mr. Andrew Banks to purchase three millions of acres of land was taken up for consideration.

A communication was received from Messrs. Williams & Swann upon the subject of said proposed sale, giving a brief statement of the previous efforts in that behalf by Reverdy Johnson and G. S. Norris, and suggesting the appointment of M. A. Williams as the Agent of the Trustees to effect the sale, with some changes in price, etc., and giving their reasons in favor of the policy of making such sale.

On motion of Mr. Gwynn, it was *Ordered*, that the consideration of said proposed sale be postponed until after the adjournment of the present session of the Legislature.

On motion, it was ordered, that the Secretary be directed to write to Gen. H. R. Jackson, of Savannah, Col. Charles H. Simonton, of Charleston, and to Gov. D. S. Walker and Col. T. W. Brevard of Tallahassee, inviting a conference with the Trustees on the 25th instant, respecting the interests of the P. & G. R. R. bondholders.

Mr. Corley called the attention of the Board to the account of Williams, Swann & Corley for selecting swamp lands, which was presented to the Board at their meeting on January 1st. but upon which no action was taken.

Mr. Raney offered the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the account of Messrs. Williams, Swann & Corley for the selection of swamp lands be referred to a committee of two for examination.

Resolved, further, That the contract heretofore entered into by the Board of Trustees with Messrs. Williams, Swann and Corley for the selection of swamp lands is hereby rescinded.

Which resolutions were adopted, and Messrs. Raney and Gwynn were appointed a committee to examine the accounts.

A letter was received from C. R. Alexander, who February 10, 1866, entered Lots No. 1 & 2, Section 36, T. 19 S. R. 16 E., applying to have said entry changed to the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 34, T. 24 S. R. 20 E.

Which was read and the application refused.

Walter Gwynn, the Treasurer of the Board, presented his official bond which was read and approved, and ordered to be spread upon the minutes, as follows:

State of Florida

County of Leon Know all men by these presents that we, Walter Gwynn, and we, William D. Bloxham, Uriah Bowden, John Varnum and John F. White, are held and firmly bound unto George F. Drew, Governor of the State of Florida, and to his successors in office, for the use, benefit, and protection of all whom it may at any time or does concern, in the sum of ten thousand dollars, lawful money of the United States of America for the payment whereof well and truly to be made we bind ourselves and our heirs, executors and administrators, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents—Signed and Sealed this seventeenth day of January A. D. 1877. The condition of this obligation is such, that, whereas



the said Walter Gwynn, the Treasurer of the State of Florida, has been appointed and elected Treasurer of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of said State, and required by a resolution of the Board to execute a bond in the sum of ten thousand dollars for the faithful performance of his duties as such Treasurer of said Board of Trustees—Now, if the said Walter Gwynn shall in all things faithfully and promptly perform and discharge his duties as Treasurer of such Board, then this obligation shall be void, but otherwise remain of full force and virtue.

Witness our hands and seals this the day and year first above written.

(Signed) WALTER GWYNN (L. S.)

(Signed) W. D. BLOXHAM (L. S.)

(Signed) URIAH BOWDEN (L. S.)

(Signed) JOHN VARNUM (L. S.)

(Signed) JOHN F. WHITE (L. S.)

Signed, sealed and delivered in our presence.

(Signed) CHAS. H. FOSTER, Witness.

An application was received from Granville Bevell, of Sumter County, asking that the entry made by him on the 24th day of March, 1876, of the S $\frac{1}{2}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 23, Township 20, South, Range 21, East, be canceled, or that he be allowed to change the entry, for the reason that the land desired by him lay in Section 33 instead of Section 23.

On motion. The salesman was authorized to permit Mr. Bevell to enter other lands in lieu of those entered by mistake.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, January 25, 1877.

The Board met in the office of the Attorney General.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commr. of Lands & Immigration.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

In compliance with the invitation extended on the 18th instant, Gen. Henry R. Jackson, of Savannah, and Gov. David S. Walker, of Tallahassee, Attorneys for the holders of a large proportion of the bonds issued by the Pensacola and Georgia Railroad Company, appeared before the Board to confer with respect to the interest of said bondholders and others respecting the seizure and sale of the Jacksonville, Pensacola and Mobile Railroad and of the Florida Central Railroad.

Gen. Jackson read a letter from Col. Charles H. Simon-ton of Charleston, S. C., the attorney of the holders of a large number of said bonds, authorizing him, the said Jackson, to represent him and his clients before the Board.

Mr. Raney read several letters and affidavits going to show that a portion of the State Bonds issued under the Act of June 24th, 1869, entitled, "An Act to Perfect the Public Works of the State," and the acts amendatory thereto, were negotiated in such manner and to such an amount as to render the Florida Central Railroad, from Jacksonville to Lake City, liable to seizure and sale under said acts.

After some time spent in discussing the various questions arising in the present condition of the railroads, the Board adjourned.

Attest:

GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, January 30, 1877.

The Board met in the Attorney General's office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Mr. Raney read to the Board the affidavit or sworn statement of Joseph B. Stewart, Esq., the attorney of the

Western Division of the Western North Carolina Railroad Company, claiming an interest in the Florida Central Railroad, going to show that no portion of the State bonds issued under the act of June 24, 1869, entitled "An Act to Perfect the Public Works of the State," and the Acts amendatory thereto, were ever negotiated in such manner and to such an amount as to render the said Florida Central Railroad liable to seizure and sale under said acts.

Mr. Raney also read a protest against the seizure and sale of said road, signed by the said Joseph B. Stewart, Esq., as the Attorney of the Florida Central Railroad Company.

The Treasurer presented the account of J. M. & H. J. Baker, attorneys, for professional services in the case of Francis Vose vs. the Trustees I. I. Fund for \$500, which had been allowed and ordered to be paid by the former Trustees on the 1st instant, and asked the instructions of the Board in reference to the payment thereof.

On motion, said account was referred to the Attorney General.

The following accounts were presented and ordered to be paid:

H. A. Crane, Publisher of the "Key of the Gulf" for publishing advertisement "State Lands brought into market" \$10.00.

C. N. Hawkins, Proprietor of the "Sunland Tribune" for publishing advertisement "State Lands brought into market" \$8.00.

The following letter from H. Bisbee, Jr., Esq., was rec'd. and read.

Tallahassee, Florida, Jany. 17th, 1877.

Hon. H. A. Corley.

Sec. Board Trustees Int. Imp. Fund.

Dear Sir:—I respectfully request early action of the Board of Trustees upon my bill for services and disbursements in the several suits in which the Trustees were interested. The suits have occupied the most of my time for three years, and in their conduct and management I have been required to be absent from home so much as to very largely injure my local practice and business. Your predecessors on the 19th of Dec. A. D. 1876, approved my accounts for services, disbursements and expenses for \$21,023.04-100 and ordered that amount paid

me out of the funds recently received by Charles H. Foster from the registry of the U. S. Supreme Court, which represent net earnings of the railroad, upon which the Board have a prior lien. I am informed that the present Board have rescinded the action of its predecessors approving my accounts. While respectfully contending that the approval of my accounts by your predecessors is final, and can not be rescinded so as to affect my rights, yet, desiring an early and satisfactory settlement, I request that I may be informed what action the Board will take in the premises. I desire nothing more than any creditor in my relation to the Board ought in justice to have—that is, just compensation for my services as soon as practicable.

If it is thought my bills are excessive, then I propose to the Board to submit that question to the Attorney General and James M. Baker, Esq., or any other attorney, who has any familiarity or acquaintance with the history of the litigation. Let them have the evidence and decide. In that case, however, I am not to be limited to the amount of the bills as approved, and their decision is to be final. I request that you will submit this to the Board, and from it an early answer.

Yours truly,

H. BISBEE, JR.

The attention of the Board was also called to the account of J. H. Durkee, Referee, for \$2,771.95 allowed and ordered by the former Trustees to be paid from the Funds received from the registry of the court in the case of the State et al. vs. E. C. Anderson et al.

Also to other claims against said Fund not yet allowed.

On motion, Mr. Raney was requested to notify all persons claiming any portion of said funds that no action would be taken prejudicial to any of their rights by the Board of Trustees, without due notice to all concerned.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW, President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, February 1, 1877.

The Board met in the office of the Attorney General.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The application of James O. Devall to be refunded the purchase money paid by him for a certain tract of land was taken up for consideration. The said Devall on the 15th of July 1858, purchased from the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 22, Township 10, South Range 26, East, which lands had been selected for the State as swamp land, but the United States Government have referred to patent the same to the State because it is embraced in what was formerly the Palatka Military Reserve. The whole amount paid for said land by said Devall was \$55.61, and a deed was made to him on the 29th of July, 1861. The said Devall has executed and delivered to the Trustees a quit claim deed for said land.

*Ordered,* That said entry be cancelled, and that the Treasurer pay to said James O. Devall fifty-five dollars and sixty-one cents, the amount of purchase money paid by him as aforesaid for said land.

An application was received from W. S. Tucker to have refunded to him forty dollars paid by him for the purchase of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 24, Township 12, South, Range 26, East, which tract had been previously sold to M. L. Mickles.

*Ordered,* That the Treasurer refund said purchase money upon the return and surrender of the deed made by the Trustees conveying said land to the said W. S. Tucker.

The Salesman presented an abstract of the sales during the month of January, showing that 2,280 acres of land had been sold and \$2,245.13 received therefor.

Mr. Corley presented the application of Frances J. Lynch for a deed for the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 6, in Township 21, South of Range 30, East, which tract had been sold to her by Williams, Swann & Corley, Agents, ap-



pointed by the U. S. Circuit Court for the sale of lands belonging to the Internal Improvement Fund, and the purchase money for which had been paid over to the Treasurer of the Board.

*Ordered*, That the Trustees will make a deed conveying said land to the said Frances J. Lynch.

The Salesman presented an abstract of the sales made at Jacksonville by M. A. Williams, Agent of the Trustees, during the month of January, showing that he had sold 923.05 acres of land, and had received therefor and paid over \$893.03.

Also, the account of M. A. Williams, Agent, for commissions on said sales, amounting to \$89.30, which was approved and the Treasurer instructed to pay the same.

Mr. Rancy offered the following resolution which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the Salesman be instructed to discontinue the agency for the sale of lands at Jacksonville after the end of the present month, and give notice thereof by advertisement.

The Committee on Rules presented a set of Rules and Regulations, which were read, amended and adopted as follows:

## RULES.

1. The officers of this Board shall consist of a President, Secretary, Salesman and Treasurer.

2. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board; shall sign all orders of the Board for the payment of money; shall sign the minutes of each meeting of the Board and shall perform such other duties as may be required of him by the Board. In the absence of the President, the Board may chose a President pro tem, who shall perform the duties of the President during such absence.

3. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to record the minutes of the Board in a book to be kept for that purpose, and to countersign the minutes of each meeting. He shall attest all orders of the Board for the payment of money. He shall keep regular accounts showing the amounts of all orders drawn by the Board, stating the particular heads of payments; shall write such correspondence as may be necessary to be carried on by the

Board; and shall perform such other duties as may be required of him.

4. It shall be the duty of the Salesman to make all sales of lands under such rules and regulations as may be established by the Board. He shall keep and preserve all books, maps, charts, papers, documents and evidence appertaining to or concerning said lands; and shall report monthly to the Board the quantity of land sold and the amount of purchase money received therefor.

5. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all moneys which by the rules and regulations of this Board are required to be paid over to him, or which by special order he may be required to receive. He shall pay out of said moneys such orders as may from time to time be drawn upon him by direction of the Board, provided said orders be signed by the President and countersigned by the Secretary. He shall keep regular accounts of the receipts and payments, which shall at all times be subject to the inspection of the Board. He shall give a bond payable to the Governor of this State, and his successors in office, in the penal sum of ten thousand dollars, conditioned to discharge his duties faithfully, with securities to be approved by the Board. He shall report monthly the amount of receipts and disbursements; and shall perform such other duties as may from time to time be required of him by the Board.

6. At each meeting of the Board shall be noted on the minutes the names of all the members present.

7. Upon all orders for the payment of money, or for the sale of lands, the vote shall be taken and recorded by yeas and nays.

8. The regular meetings of this Board shall be held on the first Wednesday of every month, but the Board may meet as often as it is called together by the President, or in his absence by the Secretary, whose duty it shall be to call such meeting at the request of any two members of the Board.

9. Any person desiring to purchase Internal Improvement or swamp lands may do so by making application therefor to the Salesman, whose duty it shall be, if the tract applied for be vacant and subject to entry to give to said applicant a certificate of that fact, stating the number of acres in the tract and the price per acre. Upon

the presentation of such certificate to the Treasurer, it shall be his duty to receive the purchase money from the applicant and give his receipt therefor; and upon the filing of such receipt in the office of the Salesman, said Salesman shall prepare a deed for the signature of the Trustees conveying said land to the purchaser, and may deliver to said purchaser a certificate of purchase for the land.

10. Where applications shall be received for the same tract of land at the same time by two or more persons, the tract shall be offered for sale to the highest bidder, in the following manner, to wit: If all the applicants are present, the Salesman shall forthwith receive bids for the land and make the sale accordingly. Where any of said applicants shall be absent, the Salesman shall appoint a day, not less than fifteen nor more than sixty days from the time of the application, and shall give notice to the parties that said land will be offered for sale on said day to the highest bidder and on the day appointed the land shall be so offered, and in the mean time shall be reserved from sale. No application for land shall be considered such for the purposes aforesaid unless accompanied with the full amount of cash necessary to make the entry.

11. When any person shall have erroneously entered Internal Improvement or swamp lands, and shall desire to effect a change of entry, he shall be permitted to do so under the following regulations:

The applicant must make affidavit before some officer authorized to administer oaths, that the tract of land he desires to enter is the one which he intended to enter at the time of his original application; that at the time of said original application, he was mistaken in the numbers of the land, and that he had used due diligence in ascertaining the true numbers before making said application; that he has not transferred or otherwise encumbered his title to the land; that the tract he desires to enter does not embrace the residence or cultivated lands of any other person, and that he has not cut or removed any timber from the tract erroneously entered. The certificate of purchase or deed must be surrendered and accompany the papers. Where it has been lost or mislaid, the party applying must advertise it for

one month in some newspaper published in this State, and give notice of intention to apply for a change of entry. Where a deed has been made and delivered to the purchaser, a deed of relinquishment shall be made reconveying the title to the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, and if the deed to the purchaser has been recorded in the Clerk's office of the county where the lands lie, the deed of relinquishment shall likewise be recorded, and a certificate shall be produced from the clerk showing that said deed has been recorded, and that the records of his office do not exhibit any other conveyance of or encumbrance of title to the land.

12. When the change of entry is effected, the Salesman shall note upon the original certificate or deed the facts of the case, to wit: That the entry has been changed from the tract named in said certificate or deed to another, designating the latter and the number of the latter entry.

13. Where the tract which the party desires to enter does not belong to the Internal Improvement Fund, or is not subject to entry, then, upon the applicants compliance with the foregoing regulations, so far as the same are applicable, the entry shall be cancelled, and the purchase money refunded, or the entry changed to such other tract as the applicant may desire.

On motion, it was ordered that the Secretary have the foregoing rules printed.

Mr. Corley offered the following resolution:

Be it Resolved by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, That every settler upon the lands claimed by this State under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved September 28, 1850, entitled "An Act to enable the State of Arkansas and other States to reclaim the swamp lands within their limits" but which have not been approved to the State by the Secretary of the Interior at Washington, shall be and he is hereby authorized to enter any number of acres, not more than one hundred and sixty, to include his improvement, within three months after the date when said lands shall be brought into market by this Board; *Provided, however,* that such settler claiming the right of preemption under this resolution shall, before the day when such lands are brought into market, file with the salesman of this Board his statement in writing declaring his intention to

enter the lands settled by him, describing the same, and shall make affidavit that he has settled upon the lands so described, and that such lands do not embrace the residence, cultivated lands, or improvements of any other person. All such declaratory statements shall be numbered and filed by the Salesman and noted upon the plats; and whenever any of the lands so applied for have been approved to the State and an order has been made by this Board to bring the same into market, the salesman shall send a notice thereof to all persons who have filed their statements as aforesaid for any of said lands, such notice to be sent to the nearest or most convenient Post office to the particular tracts applied for. Should any settler, after filing his preemption claim as aforesaid, and before the land is brought into market, sell or transfer his claim to any other person, and notify the salesman of this Board thereof, the purchaser or transferee shall be entitled to the same rights and privileges in entering the land as the original applicant had before such sale or transfer.

Which resolution was read and adopted, and ordered to be printed with the other rules and regulations adopted by the Board

A letter was received from Mr. J. B. Stripling, formerly Timber Agent, setting forth certain alleged grievances and losses sustained by him by reason of the action of the former administration in revoking his agency after he had made certain seizures of timber.

Which was read and placed on file.

A letter was received from L. W. Dallas applying to enter the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 2, Township 1, North, Range 6, East, at a reduced price accompanied with a certificate of several citizens that said tract, with the exception of 8 or 10 acres, is absolutely worthless.

On motion, the Salesman was authorized to sell said tract at the price of seventy cents per acre.

On motion, Messrs. Gwynn & Corley were appointed a Committee to confer with W. J. Barnett, respecting the trespasses upon timber lands and the proper policy to be pursued with reference thereto.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.



Tallahassee, Florida, February 2. 1877.

The Board met in the office of the Attorney General.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commr. of Lands & Immigration.

The reading of the minutes of last meeting was postponed.

The Committee appointed to confer with Mr. W. J. Barnett reported that they had done so and had invited Mr. Barnett to appear in person before the Board and give his views and opinions respecting the proper policy to be pursued to prevent trespass upon the public lands.

Mr. Barnett being present, a long consultation was had upon that subject and upon the appointment of Timber Agents for the protection of the lands.

On motion, the Board recommended to His Excellency, the Governor, that the State be divided into four districts and that he appoint a Timber Agent for each district. The first district to embrace the portion of the State lying west of the Apalachicola river—the second district to embrace the portion of the State lying between the Apalachicola river and the Florida railroad, except the county of Nassau—the third district to embrace so much of the counties of Alachua and Levy as lies east of the Florida railroad, and the counties of Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Monroe, Sumter and Polk—the fourth district to embrace the counties of Nassau, Duval, Clay, Putnam, Marion, St. Johns, Volusia, Orange, Brevard and Dade and so much of the county of Bradford as lies east of the Florida railroad.

Mr. C. Drew offered the following resolution.

*Resolved*, That this Board will pay to the Timber Agents appointed by the Governor for the districts recommended by the Board a compensation not exceeding one hundred dollars a month, including such amount as the Board of Education may agree to pay from the School and Seminary Funds, such compensation to be paid quarterly.

Upon the adoption of the resolution the vote was:

11 I. I.

Yeas--Gov. Drew, Messrs. C. Drew, Gwynn, Raney and Coriey.—5.

Nays--None.

So the resolution was adopted.

Mr. Raney offered the following resolution which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That cutting of timber of any kind on any lands of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida is prohibited; and Timber Agents are forbidden to make any contract permitting persons to cut any timber thereon, or for the sale of any such timber; and all contracts for the cutting of the same are revoked. *Provided*, That nothing in this resolution shall prevent persons who have cut any such timber, whether cedar or other kind, under contracts with such agents, from removing the same; but such persons shall be and are allowed till the first day of March to remove the same from such lands on paying for the same according to their contracts.

Mr. Raney offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That all Timber Agents are required to inquire diligently into all trespasses which have been or may be committed on the Internal Improvement Lands, and to report the same to this Board.

The following proposition was received from Simpson & Co.

To the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund:

We propose to purchase from your Board certain lands lying in Santa Rosa county, a description of which is hereto appended. These lands are all, or nearly all, in swamps lying on either side of Clear and Cold Water Creeks, and are almost valueless, there being no timber on the same, except Titi and swamp growth. For anything like agricultural purposes, they are now and will be absolutely valueless. Our object in desiring the fee to them is this: We are engaged in the business of saw-milling in Milton and bring our logs mostly down these streams, which are small and crooked. It is our intention to dig lateral ditches and to a great extent straighten them, if the price at which we can obtain the fee in them is sufficiently low to justify us in doing so. If we should first dig and plough these ditches, any person maliciously disposed could for a small sum enter a 40 or 80 acres of

them, and refusing to permit us to pass through cause us to lose our entire outlay, or force us to pay him a large sum of money. In view of the character of these lands, and of the fact that they are of no value to us whatever except for the purpose mentioned, we think 10 cents per acre a sufficient price for them. And we can with truth say that we believe that it is the best disposition your honorable body can ever make of them, so far as pecuniary return is concerned, aside from promoting the objects in a small way of the peculiar trusts of your office.

**SIMPSON & CO., per Geo. G. McWhorter.**

(List of Lands annexed in Townships 2, 3, & 5, North, Range 29, West and Townships 5 & 6, North, Range 27, West, embracing 6,197.97 acres.)

On motion the consideration of said proposition was postponed until the next meeting.

On motion of Mr. Corley, Mr. Columbus Drew was elected Secretary of the Board.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest  
GEO. F. DREW, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, February 7, 1877.

**The Board met in the Executive Office.**

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

Hugh A. Corley, Commr. of Lands & Immi-  
gration.

The minutes of the two last meetings were read and approved.

George R. Fairbanks, Esq., appeared before the Board and presented the following petition:

To the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement  
Fund of the State of Florida:

Your petitioner respectfully represents that on the 5th day of April, A. D. 1854, he entered at the U. S. Land Office, at Newnansville, Florida, by virtue of the power conferred by Surveyor Genl.'s certificate No. 1, issued to M. E. Levy in the matter of the 38,000 acre grant to F.

de la Maza Arredondo, the following described parcels of land, to-wit:

Lots 1 & 2 of Sec. 18, T. 12, R. 22 15.20-100 acres

Lot 2 of Sec. 7, T. 12 R. 22 50.36-100 acres

Frac. Sec. 17 T. 12 R. 22 36.26-100 acres

and received of the Receiver of said U. S. Land Office the several official receipts of such entry, now ready to be here produced. That owing to the failure of the Register of said Land Office to make due entry of said entries upon the Tract Books, the said lands were subsequently, to-wit, on July 16th, 1855, approved as swamp and overflowed lands, and have been patented to the State erroneously. That the Com. of Genl. Land Office has now caused the record of such entries to be made upon the books and plats of the Land Office, and has declared such entries made by your petitioner on the 5th Apl. 1854, to be valid and subsisting entries and prior in point of location to the selection and approval of the same as swamp and overflowed lands—and has requested the Governor of this State to surrender the same. Your petitioner is informed that one G. J. Arnow, as Trustee of Esther L. Arnow, claims to have entered and received a deed for a part of the same from your Board on the 25th Nov. 1868, and one W. T. Shuford for a part of the same on the 24th Apl. 1873. Your petitioner prays that your Board will take the requisite action for the surrender of such deeds, cancellation of such entries and surrender of said lands as may be proper and requisite in the premises, and to cancel such erroneous location and subsequent action thereon.

Very respectfully submitted,

G. R. FAIRBANKS.

Mr. Corley offered the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That the Salesman be instructed to prepare a deed for the signature of the Governor relinquishing to the United States the title of the State to Lot No. 2 of Section 7, in Township 12, South of Range 22, East and that the Secretary be instructed to write to G. J. Arnow, Trustee of Esther L. Arnow and to W. T. Shuford, stating the facts set forth in the petition of Mr. George R. Fairbanks, and requesting from them a relinquishment and reconveyance to the Trustees of the lands sold and conveyed to them respectively.

*Resolved, further,* That when said lands are relinquished and reconveyed to the Trustees by the said purchasers, the same will be relinquished to the United States.

*Resolved, further,* That should said purchasers, or either of them, refuse to relinquish and reconvey said lands to the Trustees, we do hereby authorize George R. Fairbanks to use the name of this Board for the purpose of instituting such legal proceedings as may be necessary to procure a surrender of the deeds made by the Trustees conveying said lands, and a re-conveyance of said land to the Trustees—such proceedings to be at the cost of the said G. R. Fairbanks.

Which resolutions were read and unanimously adopted.

On motion, the consideration of the proposition of Simpson & Co. was further postponed.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Acting Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, February 16, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commr. of Lands & Immigration.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The question of the discontinuance of the agency for the sale of lands at Jacksonville was discussed, and Mr. Corley was requested to confer with M. A. Williams, the agent at that place, respecting the terms and commissions of said agency.

Mr. Columbus Drew offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved,* That the Timber Agents appointed by the Governor are expected to devote their entire time to the discharge of their duties as Agents, in traveling from point to point through all parts of their districts; and



such Agents shall make to this Board a report quarterly of the different points visited, and of all transactions done by them as such agents, and that the Governor be requested, when forwarding the appointment of Agents, to communicate the above instructions to them.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Acting Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, February 22, 1877.

The Board met in the Attorney General's office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commr. of Lands & Immigration.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Mr. Corley offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the resolution adopted February 1, 1877, to discontinue the agency for the sale of lands at Jacksonville be and the same is hereby rescinded, and that such agency be continued; *Provided*, That the expenses thereof shall not exceed five per cent of the amount of sales at said office.

Upon the adoption of said resolution the vote was:

Yeaz—Gov. Drew, Messrs. C. Drew, Gwynn, Raney and Corley.—5.

Navs—None.

So the resolution was adopted.

The secretary laid before the Board a letter from Z. King, of Fort Ogden, Manatee County, addressed to the Hon. F. A. Hendry, requesting authority to act as Agent for the sale of the State lands in the counties of Polk, Manatee and Monroe.

The question of establishing an agency for the sale of lands in South Florida having been discussed, the following resolution was prepared and submitted to the Board:  
*Resolved*, That an agency is hereby established at Tampa for the sale of lands belonging to the Internal Im-

provement Fund lying in the counties of Hernando, Hillsborough, Polk, Manatee and Monroe; *Provided*, the expenses thereof shall not exceed five per cent of the amount received from the sale of lands at such agency. No sales made at such agency shall be binding upon the Trustees unless the purchase money is paid over to the Salesman of this Board. The agent shall be appointed by the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration, subject to the approval of this Board.

Upon the adoption of the resolution the vote was:

Yeas—Gov. Drew, Messrs. C. Drew, Gwynn, Raney and Corley.—5.

Nays—None.

So the resolution was adopted.

Mr. George P. Raney presented an account against the Board for amount paid to Clerk of the U. S. Supreme Court for printed record of the case of the State of Florida et al vs. E. C. Anderson et al (\$20.00) and the copy of petition of H. Bisbee, Jr. for fees in said case (\$8.00) amounting to \$28.00.

Which account was allowed and ordered to be paid.

Hon. David L. Yulee, Vice President and Acting President of the Atlantic, Gulf and West India Transit Company, called to the attention of the Board the letter addressed by him to the Trustees June 20, 1876, enclosing lists of the Internal Improvement and Swamp lands lying within six miles of the located line of that Company's road from Waldo to Ocala, embraced in the odd numbered sections, which said lands are claimed as belonging to that Company by virtue of the 15th Section of the Internal Improvement Act of 1855.

On motion, the letter was referred to a committee consisting of Messrs. Raney and Corley to investigate the legal questions involved and report thereon.

The petition of Simpson & Co. presented on the 2d instant was taken up for consideration.

Hon. George G. McWhorter, Attorney for Simpson & Co., appeared before the Board and presented verbal modifications of the propositions contained in their petition, and among other things stated that Simpson & Co. would be as well satisfied to obtain the right of way for their ditch or canal as to purchase the lands, and would be willing to pay for such right of way as much as they

would for the lands themselves. Whereupon, on motion of Mr. Corley, it was

*Ordered*, That the petition of Simpson & Co. be referred to Mr. Raney for the purpose of preparing a resolution granting the right of way to the petitioners through the swamp lands named therein upon the payment of two hundred and fifty dollars.

The application of George G. McWhorter for the change of entry of No. 7757 from the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 27, Township 5, North, Range 29, West, was considered and the Salesman was authorized to allow such entry changed to another tract.

The following petition was received from the President of the St. Johns, Lake Eustis and Gulf Railroad Company:

To His Excellency, G. F. Drew, Governor of the State of Florida and Chairman of the Board of Internal Improvement:

Your petitioners, the President and Directors of the St. Johns, Lake Eustis and Gulf Railroad, would respectfully represent unto your Excellency and the Board of Internal Improvements, that your petitioners, in the year 1876, organized under the general incorporation law of this State a company for the purpose of constructing a railroad from Lake George, on the St. Johns River, to Lake Eustis in the county of Orange, a distance of twenty four miles, and thence to some point on the Gulf coast. The primary object of your petitioners is the construction of that part of the road lying between Lake George and Lake Eustis, as, when this is done, the Lake system of Orange and Sumter counties, embracing Lakes Harris, Eustis, Griffin and Dora, with a frontage of 200 miles, would have an outlet for their trade and transportation facilities such as would induce immigrants to settle up the thousands of acres of vacant lands within easy reach of their shores and which are valueless so long as this beautiful section remains land-locked. Your petitioners would further represent that the St. Johns river, Lake Eustis and Gulf Railroad Company have been pushing the construction of this part of its line within the past ten months as vigorously as the exigency of the time has permitted. It has been able to complete the grading of the twenty four miles at a cost of about \$1500.

Your petitioners would further represent unto your Honorable Board that the financial difficulties pressing so heavily upon the whole country, and especially upon those localities from which this road should reasonably expect that countenance and aid necessary to the prosecution of this enterprise, seem now to imperil the prospect of its speedy completion. In this emergency your petitioners appeal to this Honorable Board to extend the helping hand to this Company, as we believe you are empowered by law to do, and enable it to complete what it has begun. We are advised that under the Act of Internal Improvement, your Honorable Board are directed to fix the price of the Internal Improvement Lands, and to sell the same for the purpose indicated in said act. We therefore ask that you will sell to the Company that we represent 100,000 acres of the Internal Improvement land of this State at the price of five cents per acre, to be located by the Company within such limits as this Board may determine, and used by it solely and exclusively for the purpose of completing the aforesaid road.

THOMAS C. LANIER,

President of St. Johns, Lake Eustis & G. R. R.

Which petition was read and on motion laid on the table.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Acting Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, February 24, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commr. of Lands & Immigration.

Mr. Raney to whom had been referred the bill of J. M. & H. J. Baker, for \$500 for professional services rendered as attorneys, which bill had been allowed and ordered to be paid by the former Trustees, reported that he had corresponded with Messrs. J. M. & H. J. Baker respecting

the same, and read to the Board a letter received from them in reference to the services for which said bill was presented, which letter is as follows:

Hon. Geo. P. Raney, Attorney General.

Dear Sir: In relation to your inquiry as to services rendered by us as attorneys in the case of Vose vs. the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, we resp'ty. state that our bill covers attention, care and management of the case at and during two terms of the United States Court, December Term 1875, and December Term 1876; in attention to settlement of accounts of the Agents and Receiver; making and resisting motions arising in the case. The most important were in the claims presented for allowance to Complainant for Solicitors' fees and expenses: One for \$5,000 for Solicitors' fees; and another account presented covering claims for Solicitors' fees and expenses. Since the commencement of the suit, amounting to \$31,000. This claim was argued at length by Gen. Jackson and the writer, continuing all day and into the ..... and was referred to a Master to inquire if anything should be allowed, and if so, what. Master to report to next term of the Court. The intimations the Court gave were decidedly favorable and it was remarked that the Court preferred however to refer decision to the regular Judge of the Circuit or District Court. Thus far we have succeeded in defeating the above very large demands of the complainant. The case is one presenting great variety of aspects or points—has been ably and vigilantly prosecuted—and to take proper care of its management imposes much responsibility, as well for these reasons as for the large amount involved.

We trust this statement may be satisfactory.

Very respectfully, etc..

J. M. & H. J. BAKER, Attys., Etc.

Feby. 23, 1877.

On motion, the Treasurer was instructed to pay the bill of Messrs. J. M. & H. J. Baker, Attorneys, for professional services rendered as stated in their communication.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Acting Secretary.



Tallahassee, Florida, February 27, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commr. of Lands & Immigration.

Mr. Joseph H. Durkee in person and with his attorney John A. Henderson, Esq., appeared before the Board and urged the payment of his account for \$2,771.95 for services rendered as referee and master in chancery in the suit of the State of Florida and the Trustees I. I. Fund vs. the Jacksonville, Pensacola and Mobile Railroad Company and others; which said account had been allowed by the former Trustees on the 1st January, 1877, and ordered paid out of the funds turned over by the Supreme Court arising in the suit of the State of Florida et al. vs. E. C. Anderson et al.

The claim was discussed, but no conclusion was reached in reference to the same, and the matter was postponed.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Acting Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, March 7, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

Hugh A. Corley, Commr. of Lands & Immigration.

The minutes of the three last meetings were read and approved.

The Governor laid before the Board the following letter from Dennis Eagan, late General Manager of the Jacksonville, Pensacola and Mobile Railroad:

Tallahassee, Florida, March 6, 1877.

Sir: I have the honor to inform you that I am now ready to settle up my accounts as Agent of the State of Florida and General Manager of the Jacksonville, Pensa-

cola and Mobile R. R. and to turn over the balance of cash and credits on hand. I therefore respectfully request that yourself and the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund will designate some officer or agent to whom I may submit my statement and vouchers, and from whom I may receive receipts in full settlement thereof.

Very respectfully,

D. EAGAN.

To His Excellency, Geo. F. Drew, Governor of Florida.

In compliance with said letter, and with the advice and consent of the Board, His Excellency, Gov. Drew appointed Gen. T. C. Spooner and Hugh A. Corley, Esq., to receive from Mr. Eagan the cash and credits now in his hands with his statement and vouchers.

The Salesman filed his abstract for the month of February, showing quantity of land sold 1694 53-100 acres, amount of purchase money therefor \$1,547.37.

The Treasurer filed his statement for the month of February showing the receipt and disbursement of \$1,547.37.

The proposition of the St. Johns, Lake Eustis and Gulf Railroad Company, which had been read and laid on the table on the 22d ult., was taken up for consideration.

Mr. Corley offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Board will sell to the St. Johns, Lake Eustis and Gulf Railroad Company ninety thousand acres of the swamp lands, embraced in the odd numbered sections, lying on each side of and nearest to their line of road, at the price of five cents per acre, said lands to be located within fifteen miles of said road and west of the St. Johns river—conveyance of said lands not to be made until the said road is completed from the waters of the St. Johns river to Lake Eustis; *Provided, however*, that unless said road is completed as aforesaid within twelve months, this resolution may be rescinded by this Board.

Upon the adoption of the resolution, the vote was:

Yeas—Gov. Drew, Messrs. Gwynn and Corley.

Nays—None.

Mr. Columbus Drew was excused from voting.

So the resolution was adopted.

The secretary laid before the Board the following notice which had been filed on the 26th ult.

To the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida :

The Western Railroad Company, a corporation of the State of Florida, organized, among other purposes, to construct that part of the line between the St. Johns river, at Jacksonville, and the waters of Pensacola Bay, which lies between Chattahoochee or the Apalachicola river and the waters of the Pensacola Bay, hereby give notice to you of its full acceptance of the provisions of the Act to provide for and encourage a liberal system of Internal Improvements in this State approved January 6th. 1855.

WILLIAM D. BARNES,

President.

February 26th, 1877.

Mr. Columbus Drew resigned his position as Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, and Mr. Hugh A. Corley was elected Secretary.

The following bill was presented, allowed and ordered paid :

W. G. Stewart, P. M. at Tallahassee for postage stamps to the office of the Salesman, nine dollars—\$9.00.

The account of G. H. Johnson, formerly County Surveyor of Manatee County, for surveying land supposed to have been trespassed upon, under instructions from the Sheriff of said County, 18 days at \$5.00 per day, amounting to \$90, was presented. This account had been presented to the Legislature of 1875 as a claim against the State of Florida, and a bill passed both Houses for the payment of the same, but was vetoed by the Governor for the reason that the same should have been paid from the Fund for the protection of which the services were rendered.

On motion, it was *Ordered*, that the account be allowed and the Treasurer instructed to pay the same.

A letter was laid before the Board addressed to Governor Drew by D. W. Hendrickson, of Red Bank, N. J., claiming to have been interested in a contract with the former Trustees for the construction of the West Florida and Mobile Railroad, and inquiring as to the probability of having the provisions of said contract renewed or extended.

*Ordered*, that the Secretary reply to the communication.

The following proposition was received from James B. Stone:

To the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida:

The undersigned respectfully represents to your Board that there is a large quantity of land belonging to your Fund in Township 3, South, of Range 9, West, which is swampy and overflowed, and entirely unfit for cultivation without artificial drainage. This land lies near the Chipola river, and to reclaim the same will require extensive ditching, and the drains would have to be dug both deep and wide. The work which would reclaim a small portion of this land would necessarily benefit a large quantity of the adjacent lands. I respectfully request of your Board to be authorized to make the necessary ditches and drains to reclaim one thousand acres or more of said lands, to-wit: The  $E\frac{1}{2}$  of  $SE\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 5, all of Sec. 8, and the  $NE\frac{1}{4}$  of  $NE\frac{1}{4}$   $W\frac{1}{2}$  of  $NE\frac{1}{4}$  and  $NW\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 17, in said township. Other lands will necessarily be reclaimed by the work done, but the tracts named above are specified in order that the contract may be definite, and also the proof when the work is done. I am willing to do the work necessary to render said lands fit for cultivation, and to furnish proof of the due execution of the work within a reasonable time, and also proof of the present condition of the lands showing their unfitness for cultivation without drainage, provided the Trustees will convey to me 160 acres of the lands after they are reclaimed, to be selected by me in one body, and will in the mean time reserve the lands from sale.

JAS. B. STONE,

Mr. Corley offered the following resolutions:

Be it Resolved by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida, That James B. Stone, of Calhoun County, Florida, is hereby authorized to enter upon, ditch and drain the following swamp and overflowed lands, to-wit: The East half of the South East quarter of Section Five, all of Section Eight, and the North East quarter of the North East quarter, the west half of the North East quarter, and the North West quarter of Section Seventeen, in Township three, South of Range Nine, West, so as to reclaim said lands and render them fit for cultivation: and whenever the said James B. Stone

shall furnish proof to the satisfaction of this Board that the necessary ditches and drains have been dug so as to render said lands fit for cultivation, together with proof that said lands are unfit for cultivation without artificial drainage, then this Board will convey to the said James B. Stone one hundred and sixty acres of said lands, to be selected by him in a compact body by legal subdivisions, in consideration of the work done by him in reclaiming said lands; Provided, that the work shall be done and proof made within twelve months from this date.

Be it further resolved, that the lands above mentioned shall be reserved from sale until the further order of this Board.

Upon the adoption of the resolutions the vote was:

Yeas—Governor Drew, Messrs. C. Drew, Gwynn & Corley—4.

Nays—None.

So the resolutions were adopted.

A letter was received from Robert J. Kendrick stating that on the 30th day of November last he applied to Williams and Corley, Agents at Jacksonville for the sale of lands, to purchase for Isabella C. Kendrick the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  and NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 12, Township 14, South, Range 21 East, and also to purchase for Jacob Jackson the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of the same section—that he paid to said Williams & Corley the purchase money for said lands at the price of \$1.25 per acre, and received their receipt therefor—that he was subsequently notified that said lands had been reserved for the benefit of William Lever, and that said Lever subsequently, to-wit, on the 14th day of December was permitted to enter said land, and the same was conveyed to him by deed. Upon these facts, the said Kendrick claimed that the said Isabella C. Kendrick and Jacob Jackson are entitled to the land, and asked relief from the Board.

The Salesman corroborated the statements made in said letter.

On motion, it was ordered, that Isabella C. Kendrick and Jacob Jackson be permitted to use the name of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, should the same be necessary, to procure from the Court an order or decree compelling a surrender of the dead made to William Lever, and a re-conveyance of the land to Trustees,



or for such other relief as said parties may be entitled to, such proceedings to be at the cost of the said Kendrick and Jackson.

The Board then adjourned.

GEORGE F. DREW, President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, March 13, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted.

Whereas, At the last meeting of this Board a resolution was adopted to sell to the St. Johns, Lake Eustis and Gulf Railroad Company ninety thousand acres of land at five cents per acre: and whereas, after mature consideration we are convinced that a sale of lands at a nominal price is not authorized under the Internal Improvement Act, and that in making such sale we transcend our powers as Trustees: Therefore

Be it resolved by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, That the resolution adopted on the sixth instant for the sale of lands to the St. Johns, Lake Eustis and Gulf Railroad Company at five cents per acre be and the same is hereby rescinded.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW, President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, April 16, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The minutes of the last two meetings were read and approved.

On motion it was

Ordered, That E. J. Berry be employed as Agent for the protection of the State lands at a salary of one hundred dollars a month, including whatever amount may be contributed by the Board of Education for the protection of the School and Seminary lands.

Messrs. George S. Norris and Andrew Banks, of Baltimore, appeared before the Board, and Mr. Norris made a verbal statement of his actings and doings in England in attempting the negotiation of lands belonging to the Internal Improvement Fund under the previous contract with the Trustees.

Messrs. Banks and Norris suggested to the Board the propriety of continuing the effort to make such sales, and requested that the Board indicate the terms and conditions which would be acceptable to the Trustees for that purpose.

Without taking any action in the premises the Board adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW, President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, April 17, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The following letter from George S. Norris, Esq., was read:

Tallahassee, April 16, 1877.

To the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida:

Gentlemen: The schedule which has engaged me for the past 12 mos. has been to sell 3,000,000 acres of selected 12 I. I.

Florida lands to net the State 25c per acre. The only price named for these lands during my late stay in England was 2s. sterling per acre, or about 47c the difference between the 47c and 25c, say 22c, after paying various fees (including the Solicitors who have the control of immense sums for investment, and who are to be purchased as any other commodity) is to be apportioned, one quarter for my services, one quarter to certain parties in New York and Florida, and one half to the parties in Baltimore who have risked their funds expended in my late trip, viz: \$10,000, and who will be required to pay a second sum should another attempt to sell be made.

It will be essential to issue State Land Warrants, chiefly of 40, 80 and 160 acres, so attractive that they will be negotiable, to be exchanged for a State deed when located, when the taxes commence. The price of said warrants to be stated on the face to be \$1.00 per acre—for any quantity of land sold under 100,000 acres, the price to be at par, viz: \$1.00; for 500,000 acres a discount of 25 per cent or 75c; for 1,000,000 a disct. of 33 1-3 pr. ct.; for 2,000,000 acres 40 pr. ct.; and for the entire 3,000,000 acres 50 pr. ct.—the State to receive the entire benefit for any sales effected in quantity less than the 3,000,000 acres. The parties taking the risk of the sale and the expenses in no event to receive more than the difference between the 25c to the State and the 2s sterling per acre. A schedule still more feasible having interest coupons attached to the land warrants, I will be glad to name to your Board in person.

I am, Yours Mo. Respectfully,

G. S. NORRIS.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, April 19, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commr. of Lands & Immigration.

The minutes of the two last meetings were read and approved.

The committee to whom was referred the account of Messrs. Williams, Swann and Corley for selecting swamp lands, made the following report:

To the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida:

Your committee to whom was referred the claim of Messrs. Williams, Swann and Corley for selections of swamp and overflowed lands, under contract of May 18, 1873, with the Board of Trustees, the claim being for \$17,938.30 for selecting 896.915 acres of land (which have been approved at Washington) for which they are to be paid two cents per acre for all lands selected and patented to the State, the same being by said contract payable in lands at the market price thereof out of those lands patented after such contract, beg to report: That they have examined the same and find that although these lands have not been patented, yet that the Board has placed these lands on the market and are selling the same. It is our opinion that, as the Board has placed the lands so selected on the market, Messrs. William, Swann and Corley should be allowed their claim, and we so recommend. We annex hereto as a part of this report a communication received this day from Williams, Swann and Corley, showing the other services as well as those above mentioned rendered under said contract.

WALTER GWYNN,  
GEO. P. RANEY,

Committee.

April 19, 1877.

Messrs. Raney and Gwynn,

Gentlemen: As you have been appointed a committee to examine the account of Williams, Swann and Corley for selecting swamp lands, we will make the following statement:

The contract was entered into May 18, 1873, and is spread upon the minutes of the Board. Under the terms of the contract Williams, Swann and Corley were authorized to select all the Internal Improvement and Swamp lands to which the State was entitled under the Acts of Congress of 1841 and 1850. They were also required to assist the Trustees in endeavoring to procure an adjust-

ment of all the claims of the State for lands which had been previously selected but not approved or patented. They were also to furnish testimony to secure to the State the indemnity due, either in money or lands, under the Acts of Congress of 1855 and 1857 for swamp lands sold by the U. S. after September 1850. For these services the Agents were to receive two cents per acre for all lands selected by them and patented to the State, payable in lands thereafter to be patented.

We have made selections, amounting to 1,552,098.63 acres, but only our two first lists have been acted on by the General Land Office. These two lists embrace 899,777.77 acres, of which 896,915 acres have been approved to the State and brought into market by the Trustees. We have also by making personal applications at the General Land Office procured the approval of 32,455.24 acres of Internal Improvement Lands which had been previously selected.

In aiding the Trustees to procure the adjustment of old selections, Mr. Swann and Mr. Corley each made several trips to Washington, and used their exertions with the Department and with the land Committees of Congress. There was, however, considerable opposition from outside parties and very little aid from our members of Congress at that time. It was with difficulty that we could get the Land Department even to open the old files for consideration, but at last they consented to do so, and we think that hereafter the State will find less difficulty. One of the Agents (Mr. Corley) at the request of the Swamp Land Division came to Tallahassee and made out a complete list of all selections that had not been approved, with the promise that when such list was prepared the department would take them up and appoint agents to adjust the indemnity under the Acts of 1855 and 1857. After three weeks labor in the State Land Office, the list was made out and carried by Mr. Corley to Washington, but it has been impossible to get any further action in that matter.

The only actual approvals made since our contract are those of the 896,915 acres of swamp land and the 32,455.24 I. I. land hereinbefore mentioned. It is for these swamp lands that we claim compensation.



You will observe that under our agreement we were to be paid only for lands selected by us and *patented* to the State. The patents have not yet been received, but only the approved lists, upon which it will be necessary for the Governor to request patents. It has not been usual for the Trustees to offer lands for sale until the patent has been received and if that course had been observed in this instance we would not now be presenting our account. But the Trustees immediately brought these lands into market, and they are now subject to entry. We therefore think it fair and an act of simple justice that we be permitted to select our lands, as it would operate to our injury to permit all the best lands to be bought before we could select ours.

We therefore claim our compensation for selecting 896,915 acres at 2 cents per acre, amounting to \$17,938.20 to be paid in the lands approved to the State since our contract, at the regular prices.

Respectfully,

WILLIAMS, SWANN & CORLEY.

Mr. Raney offered the following resolution which was adopted.

Resolved, That the claim of Messrs. Williams, Swann & Corley for \$17,938.30 for selecting 896,915 acres of swamp and overflowed lands, and other services, under contract of May 18th. 1873. with the Board of Trustees, the said sum to be paid in lands patented to the State after such contract was made, at current prices, be allowed; and that such quantity of lands patented after such contract was made as they may select, be conveyed to them at the now current prices to the value of their said claim.

Col. Theodore C. Cone, of Washington, appeared before the Board and made a statement respecting the unadjusted claims of the State against the United States under the several land grants by Congress, and asked to be employed by the Trustees to represent the State at Washington and procure an adjustment of the same. For procuring a settlement of all such claims, not embracing selections made since the war, he desires to receive a commission of 25 per cent of all the lands or scrip thereby inuring to the State.

The consideration of the proposition was postponed.

The Salesman presented his abstract of sales during the month of March, showing quantity of land sold 3, 427.27 acres—amount received therefor \$3,198.88.

The Treasurer presented his statement for the month of March, showing the receipt and disbursement of \$3,198.88.

Col. Ruter presented to the Board a contract proposed to be entered into between the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund and the Jacksonville, St. Augustine and Indian River Railroad and Navigation Company, which is substantially as follows: The said company to construct a railroad from the St. Johns River in Duval County, to St. Augustine, and thence to Halifax on Indian River, and to deepen the channels of Halifax river, Mosquito Lagoon and Indian river; also a branch road from Jacksonville to Fernandina; said road to be constructed on a gauge of three feet. The Trustees to sell to said company at a price to be fixed upon, two hundred sections of land for every ten miles of completed road, and a like quantity for every expenditure in the improvement of the rivers equal to the cost of constructing ten miles of road, provided the whole quantity so conveyed should not exceed the lands owned by the Fund east of the St. Johns river in the counties of Duval, St. Johns, Putnam and Volusia, and that said lands be withdrawn from market, except to actual settlers. Ten miles of said road to be completed within six months, and ten miles more every three months.

The consideration of said proposition was postponed until another meeting.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Acting Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, April 20, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

Mr. J. M. Bryan, of Orange County, appeared before the Board and requested a sale of lands to the St. Johns, Lake Eustis, and Gulf Railroad Company, to aid them in the construction of their road.

The Attorney General placed before the Board an order from the Circuit Court of St. Johns County, injoining the Trustees from selling lands granted to the St. Johns Railway Company by an act of the Legislature. Mr. Raney was requested to procure the record of the proceedings in said case.

Alexander Merritt having entered the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 24, Township 4, South, Range 10, West, containing 40.03 acres, on the 16th May, 1874, which said tract had already been sold to Richard L. Smith on the 25th of April, 1874, and having surrendered his deed for said tract and released the same by deed to the Trustees, it was ordered, That the said entry of Alexander Merritt be canceled and the purchase money refunded.

Jacob W. Thomas having, on the 15th of September 1862, purchased the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 22, and the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 27, T. 10, S. R. 26, E., containing 80.84 acres, the purchase money therefor amounting to \$60.63 and the U. S. Government having refused to patent said land to the State, and the said Jacob W. Thomas having surrendered his deed for said land and reconveyed the same to the Trustees: it was ordered that the said entry of Jacob W. Thomas be canceled, and the purchase money therefor refunded.

Mr. David D. Roach, of Sumter county, forwarded to the Board the receipt and deed issued to Thomas M. Williams for the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 29, Township 19, South, Range 24, East, entered by said Williams on the 9th of October, 1868, and asked that the deed to Williams be canceled and a new deed made to him, (Roach.) The circumstances are as follows: The entry was made Oct. 9, 1868, and a receipt was sent to the said Williams. Williams assigned the receipt to David D. Roach and left the country. The deed was made to Williams on the 25th November, 1868, but was never received by him, but was received by Roach—so there was no delivery of the deed to Williams—Williams never having returned to this country. Roach can not get a deed from him. It was ordered, That the deed to Thomas M. Williams be canceled

and filed, and that a deed be executed conveying said land to the said David D. Roach.

The abstracts of sales by M. A. Williams, Agent at Jacksonville, for the months of February and March were received and placed on file.

The following accounts were presented, approved and ordered to be paid.

M. A. Williams, commissions on sales during the months of February and March; 1877, \$106.90.

Charles E. Dyke, printing for Salesman's office, \$38.00.

W. G. Stewart, P. M. at Tallhassee, for postage, \$17.24.

C. A. Bryan, Jr., for binding for Salesman's office, \$5.00.

H. A. Corley, Salesman, for telegraphing, \$6.00.

A petition was received from I. M. Mabbette of Orange County, for the privilege of draining certain lands in Township 19, South, Range 27, East and to purchase the same at ten cents per acre.

Which was read and the consideration thereof postponed.

Mr. Samuel A. Swann appeared before the Board and gave his views generally respecting the sale of lands to foreign parties in large quantities and promised to communicate his ideas more fully in writing.

The proposition of Col. Cone to act as Agent for the State at Washington was taken up for consideration, and the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Col. Theodore C. Cone having made a proposition to this Board to be employed as Agent for adjusting the claims against the United States under the Act of September 28, 1850, and other acts granting the swamp and overflowed lands to the State; and this Board not being fully advised with regard to the condition of such claims, and desiring to obtain further information respecting the same before making any contract or agreement with any resident agent at Washington for the prosecution thereof: Therefore,

Resolved, That this Board will not accept the proposition of Col. Cone until some action is taken under our order to obtain the information necessary to enable the Trustees to decide upon the necessity or importance of employing a special agent.

The proposition made by Col. Ruter was taken up for consideration, and the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Whereas. The Jacksonville, St. Augustine and Indian River Railroad and Navigation Company have made a proposition to this Board for the purchase of lands belonging to the Fund upon such terms as will aid said Company in the continuation of their line of road;

And, whereas, It is the opinion of the Board that, under the trust created by the Act of January 6, 1855, as construed by the Courts, the Trustees have not the power to sell lands to any railroad company or other corporation on any other terms than such as they would make with individuals without regard to any public benefit to accrue from such sale, unless it should be shown that by reason thereof the value or efficiency of the fund would be enhanced; therefore,

Resolved, That the Board decline to accept the proposition, or to make the sale of lands as requested.

On motion, the Secretary was instructed to notify Mr. Andrew Banks and Mr. George S. Norris that the Trustees decline to renew the contract with Mr. Norris for the negotiation of land sales in Europe.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, April 21, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

The minutes of the last two meetings were read and approved.

The account of W. J. Barnett for his salary as Timber Agent for two months and three days, ending April 5, 1877, was presented and approved and ordered paid, amounting to \$211.55-100.



The Treasurer having reported the receipt of moneys on account of stumpage from lands without information as to what fund the lands belonged to from which the timber was cut, Mr. Corley offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That moneys received by the Treasurer and now in his hands on account of stumpage, where it can not be ascertained to which Fund the lands belong from which the timber was cut, be apportioned between the Internal Improvement Fund and the School and Seminary Funds, as follows: Four-fifths to the Internal Improvement Fund, and one-fifth to the School and Seminary funds; Provided, The Board of Education agree to such apportionment and will pay one-fifth of the salary of our Timber Agent up to the 5th instant.

Ordered, That said resolution be certified to the Board of Education.

A letter was received from D. W. Hendrickson, of Red Bank, N. J., dated March 21, in reference to the construction of the railroad west from the Apalachicola river.

Which was read and placed on file.

A proposition was received from John M. Bryan and others, to drain a large quantity of overflowed land lying north of Lake Apopka by cutting a canal from the Oclawaha river to said Lake twenty feet wide and from two to four feet deep, for the lands themselves.

Which was read and the consideration thereof postponed.

A proposition was received from H. F. Hammon to purchase from 3,000 to 5,000 acres of land in Townships 41 and 42, South of Range 43, East, said land being overflowed, at forty cents per acre for 5,000 acres, and fifty cents per acre for less than 5,000 and more than 3,000 acres.

Which was read and the consideration thereof postponed.

A letter was received from William C. Brown to whom had been tendered the appointment of Agent for the sale of lands at Tampa in which he asked a modification of the terms in reference to such agency so as to restrict the sales of lands within that District to the Agency alone, and requested some assurance of the permanency of the

office before incurring the necessary preliminary expenses of procuring plats, etc.

On motion, it was ordered, That the Secretary inform Mr. Brown that the Trustees decline to modify the terms as proposed.

A communication was received from Samuel A. Swann, Esq., setting forth the plan which he would recommend the Trustees to adopt with regard to the sale of land warrants amounting to 2,000,000 acres of land. Mr. Swann also appeared in person before the Board and more fully explained his views. He was requested to meet the Board on Thursday next for further consultation.

Mr. Alonzo Fowle submitted a verbal proposition to the Board to publish a monthly immigration paper in Tallahassee, under the supervision of the Trustees, provided the Board would subscribe for from 1,000 to 2,000 copies at one dollar per copy.

After discussion, Mr. Raney offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Trustees will take of Mr. Alonzo Fowle one thousand copies of an immigration paper to be published by him at Tallahassee said paper to be a monthly issue, the price to be paid to be seventy five cents per copy; and to be mailed from the office of said paper to such addresses as the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration may suggest, the postage to be paid by Mr. Fowle. Such subscription may be discontinued by the Board at its discretion.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW, President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, April 26, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands  
and Immigration.

The Governor laid before the Board a letter from E. J. Lewith, of Charleston, S. C., claiming to hold first mortgage guaranteed bonds and coupons of the Tallahassee Railroad Company and preferred stock in the Pensacola and Georgia Railroad issued in exchange for first mortgage coupons upon said road, and inquiring "how, when and who will make settlement therefor."

Which was read and the Secretary instructed to reply thereto.

A communication was received from Alonzo Fowle reciting the resolution adopted by the Board on the 21st instant respecting the subscription to an immigration paper to be published by him and asking that said resolution be modified so as to read:

"Resolved, That the Board of Trustees will take of Mr. Alonzo Fowle twelve hundred copies of an immigration paper to be published and edited by him at Tallahassee, Florida, said paper to be a monthly issue, the price to be paid to be seventy five cents per copy, and to be mailed from the office of publication to such addresses as the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration may suggest, the expenses of postage and wrapping paper to be paid by the Board. Such subscription may be discontinued by the Board at their discretion upon giving Mr. Fowle three months notice of such intention."

Mr. H. C. Rippey appeared before the Board and asked to be allowed a day or two to prepare and submit to the Board a proposition for publishing an immigration paper.

The consideration of the matter was thereupon postponed.

It was announced to the Board that the Board of Education had concurred in the resolution adopted on the 21st instant apportioning moneys received from stumpage between the Internal Improvement Fund and the School and Seminary Funds.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW, President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, April 27, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The minutes of the two last meetings were read and approved.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Be it resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida, That for the purpose of facilitating sales of lands belonging to the Internal Improvement Fund, this Board will issue Land Warrants authorizing the holders thereof to locate the quantity of land specified therein upon any of the unsold and unappropriated lands granted to the State of Florida by the Act of Congress approved September 28, 1850; said warrants to be for forty acres, one hundred and sixty acres, and six hundred and forty acres, to embrace altogether the quantity of two millions acres, of which one million acres shall be in warrants of forty acres, and the other million acres in warrants of one hundred and sixty, and six hundred and forty acres. Said warrants shall be signed by the President of this Board (Whose signature may be engraved or lithographed) and countersigned by the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration, and attested with the Seal of the Florida State Land Office.

Be it further resolved, That Samuel A. Swann, of Fernandina, Florida, is hereby appointed the Agent of this Board for the negotiation of said Land Warrants, and the said agent is charged with the duty of having said warrants engraved or lithographed and printed, the expense thereof to be paid by this Board. Said warrants shall be sold by said agent on the following terms, viz: For the whole issue of two million acres, not less than forty cents per acre; for one million acres, not less than fifty cents per acre; for five hundred thousand acres, not less than sixty cents per acre—said agent to retain for his commission on such sales three cents per acre for land sold at forty cents per acre, four cents per acre for land sold at fifty cents per acre, six cents per acre for land sold at sixty cents per acre. And our said agent is

authorized, instead of negotiating said land warrants, to sell the lands themselves in quantities of not less than one million acres and not exceeding three millions acres, to be located in bodies of not less than twenty-five thousand acres at not less than thirty cents per acre, the said Agent to retain from the purchase money his commissions at the rate of three cents per acre.

Be it further resolved, That in case of the sale of lands or land warrants under the foregoing resolutions, the price of the lands belonging to the Internal Improvement Fund shall not be reduced for two years from this date, nor will any further land warrants be issued.

The Board then adjourned.

GEORGE F. DREW, President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, May 11, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The resolution adopted on the 21st April respecting the publication of an Immigration paper by Mr. Alonzo Fowle, and agreeing to subscribe for 1,000 copies thereof, and the letter of Mr. Fowle suggesting modifications thereof, were taken up for consideration.

On motion, the resolution was amended by striking out words "the postage to be paid by Mr. Fowle."

The Governor laid before the Board the following letter:

Tallahassee, May 3rd, 1877.

Hon. G. F. Drew, Prest. Board Trustees I. I. Fund.

Dear Sir: Referring to my letter of the 1st inst., I beg to advise that I have applied to the Court now in session to secure by prompt action, viz:

1st. The appointment of a Receiver for the J. P. & M. Railroad.



2nd. The accomplishment in the most speedy manner of the sale of said road.

3rd. The application of the funds in the hands of the Treasurer in accordance with the mandate of the Supreme Court of the United States.

From the developments making in the proceedings now before the Courts, it is apparent that the Attorney General has been imposed upon by persons of questionable character and counsel acting for large contingent fees, and I trust it will not require much deliberation by the Trustees to become convinced that the damage to the material interests of the State and the discredit to themselves require that they should aid rather than oppose securing the objects above mentioned in the manner proposed.

A needless litigation has been continued for nearly ten years at an expense of over three hundred thousand dollars by reason of the fraudulent acts of former Trustees, and promoted by Attorneys seeking and obtaining enormous contingent fees, keeping the road in a wrecked condition and preventing its completion to the west.

It is hardly possible to conceive that any first mortgage bondholder, not influenced by adverse interests, or that the public generally would not join in the above request.

Asking a prompt consideration of the matter,

I remain, res'py., Yr. Obt. Serv't.,

F. VOSE.

Which was read and referred to the Attorney General.

The Governor laid before the Board a letter from Messrs. Drummond and Bradford, of Washington, Attorneys, asking to be appointed as Agents of the State to procure the adjustment of the land claims of the State in the Department of the Interior

Which was read, and the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration was instructed to reply thereto.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, May 25, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The Attorney General laid before the Board a letter from Gen. Henry R. Jackson, Attorney for some of the holders of the First Mortgage Guaranteed Bonds of the Pensacola and Georgia Railroad Company, and the Solicitor for the complainants in the case of E. C. Anderson et al vs. The Jacksonville, Pensacola and Mobile Railroad Company, in which he advised that the Trustees immediately file a petition before Justice Bradley, at Savannah, asking such order in said case as would cause the sale of Railroad from Quincy to Lake City under the decree heretofore made in the said case by the Hon. W. B. Woods, Judge of the Fifth Judicial Circuit of the United States.

On motion the Attorney General was requested to notify Gen. Jackson that the Trustees decline to make and file the petition as requested.

The Attorney General presented an account for the cost of transcript of the records in the case of the St. Johns Railway Company against the Trustees, and the case of Thomas B. Coddington against the Trustees, amounting to \$21.40, which was allowed and ordered paid.

\*The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

\*The Attorney General was authorized to associate Ex-Gov. David S. Walker with him in such suits concerning the Trustees as he might deem proper.

Tallahassee, Florida, May 26, 1877.

The Board met in the Comptroller's office.

Present: Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

Mr. Columbus Drew was elected President pro tem to act during the absence of the Governor.

The following accounts were presented:

C. E. Dyke, for printing 1,000 receipts for Tréasurer, \$8.00.

Jacksonville Press for advertising discontinuance of agency in Jacksonville and renewal of same. \$8.00.

Which were allowed and ordered to be paid.

Attest: COLUMBUS DREW, President pro tem.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, June 1, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The minutes of the proceedings of April 27th and May 11th, 25th and 26th were read.

The minutes of May 25th were amended by inserting:

"The Attorney General was authorized to associate Ex-Gov. David S. Walker with him in such suits concerning the Trustees as he might deem proper."

The minutes were then approved.

The following instrument of writing was executed by the Trustees:

To All Whom it May Concern—Greeting:

Know Ye, That we, George F. Drew, Governor, Columbus Drew, Comptroller, Walter Gwynn, Treasurer, George P. Raney, Attorney General and Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration of the State of Florida, by virtue of our said offices the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, reposing special trust and confidence in the wisdom, skill and integrity of Samuel A. Swann, of Fernandina, Florida, do hereby make, constitute and appoint the said Samuel A. Swann to be our Agent for the sale of land warrants to be issued by us for the location of two millions of acres of

land belonging to the Internal Improvement Fund, acquired by the State under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved September 28th A. D. 1850; and we do hereby authorize and empower him to take charge of and sell said land warrants, or any part thereof not less than five hundred thousand acres, and to receive payment therefor, and deliver the same to the purchasers, on the following terms, to wit: For the whole issue of two millions acres, not less than forty cents per acre; for one million acres not less than fifty cents per acre; for five hundred thousand acres, not less than sixty cents per acre. And we do further authorize our said Agent, in his discretion, to withhold said land warrants from sale, and, in lieu thereof to bargain and sell not less than one million nor more than three millions acres of the lands belonging to the Internal Improvement Fund, acquired under said A. C. at not less than thirty cents per acre, to be located by the purchaser or purchasers thereof, or their heirs or assigns, in bodies of not less than twenty-five thousand acres. And to do and perform all necessary acts in the prosecution and execution of the sale and transfer of the said land warrants or lands. All sales of warrants or lands to be for cash. In Testimony whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names and affixed our seals, and have caused an impression of the Seal of the Florida State Land Office to be made hereupon, at the Capitol, in the city of Tallahassee, State of Florida, this the first day of June, eighteen hundred and seventy-seven.

(Signed) GEO. F. DREW, Governor. (L. S.)

(Signed) C. DREW, Comptroller. (L. S.)

(Signed) WALTER GWYNN, Treasurer. (L. S.)

(Signed) GEO. P. RANEY, Attorney General. (L. S.)

(Signed) HUGH A. CORLEY, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration. (L. S.)

Signed, Sealed and Delivered in the presence of us.

(Signed) W. K. BEARD.

(Signed) J. J. DICKISON.

On motion the Treasurer was instructed to pay to E. J. Berry, Agent for the protection of the public lands from trespass, his salary from the 16th of April to the 31st of May, inclusive, amounting to one hundred and fifty dollars.

The accounts of M. A. Williams for commission on sales made by him in April, amounting to \$42.97, and for commissions on sales in May, amounting to \$31.45 were approved and ordered to be paid.

Hugh A. Corley, Salesman, presented an account for expenses incurred in causing the seizure of cedar cut upon the public lands near the Aucilla river, said seizure having been made in Wakulla county, amounting to \$9.58, which was approved and ordered to be paid.

The account of W. F. Forward, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Putnam county, for \$1.75 for recording deed of relinquishment from W. S. Tucker to the Trustees was approved and ordered to be paid.

A letter from W. S. Tucker was read in which he claimed that the Trustees should refund to him \$5.80 being the cost of recording a deed for land erroneously sold to him and the preparation of a deed of relinquishment, and a survey of the land when he supposed he had title thereto.

The Trustees refused to refund the expenses so incurred.

A letter was received from J. S. Taylor stating the following facts: That in last year he entered forty acres of land in the name of Maggie A. Miller, at the request of her husband, Allen C. Miller, the said Miller promising to pay said Taylor for said land; that Miller failed to pay for the land and has left the State—that the deed is in the possession of said Taylor and has never been recorded. Under these circumstances the said Taylor asks that the deed to Maggie A. Miller be canceled, and the land conveyed to him.

The Trustees decided that they could not comply with the request of said Taylor, but he must seek his remedy in the Courts.

A letter was received from the Commissioner of the General Land Office at Washington stating that the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 34, Township 13, South, Range 23, East, was located in the United States Land Office by Thomas B. Higgins, July 5, 1854, but was inadvertently patented to the State as Swamp Land September 4, 1857, and requesting that the title of the State be relinquished to the United States in order that a patent may be made to the said Higgins. The salesman reported that said tract had never been sold by the Trustees and thereupon it was



Ordered, That the Governor be authorized to re-convey said tract of land to the United States.

The proposition of H. F. Hammon postponed on the 21st April was taken up for consideration, and the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

*Resolved*, That this Board will sell to H. F. Hammon from three thousand to five thousand acres of swamp and overflowed lands lying in the South half of Township 41, South, Range 43, East, and the West half of Township 42, South, Range 43, East, and the Eastern tier of Sections in Township 42, South, Range 42, East on the following terms: Five thousand acres at forty cents per acre. Three thousand acres and less than five thousand acres at fifty cents per acre—such land to be taken in a compact body, and to be paid for within thirty days after the confirmation of the title of the State thereto.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, June 14, 1877.

Board met in Governor's office.

Present: Geo. F. Drew, Governor.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Geo. P. Raney, Attorney General.

The Atty. Genl. was elected secretary pro tem.

The bill of W. H. Walker, Sheriff of Wakulla County for moving cedar from light house to St. Marks was ordered to be paid, the amount being twenty dollars.

GEO. F. DREW, President.  
GEO. P. RANEY, Secy. pro tem.

Tallahassee, Florida, June 29, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The minutes of the two last meetings were read and approved. A communication recommending the appointment of Count Wassilieff as agent in N. Y. was received and referred to the Attorney General.

Entry No. 7992 by O. J. Spofford, of Lots Nos. 1 and 2 and E $\frac{1}{2}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 12, Township 28, South, Range 20, East, containing 138.13 acres, was canceled upon the application of the purchaser, and the Treasurer instructed to refund the purchase money amounting to \$110.50.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, July 6, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Attorney General presented a deed drawn for the execution of the Governor reconveying to the United States the Northwest quarter of Section 34, Township 13, South, Range 23, East, in accordance with the order of the Board on the 1st June, and said deed was executed by His Excellency, Governor Drew.

It having been represented that parties who cut cedar upon the State lands near the Gulf Coast prior to the first of March, claiming to have done so under contract with the former Timber Agents, have not been able to remove the same and desire permission to do so, it was

*Ordered*, That such timber may be removed within a reasonable time upon the payment of the amount due for stumpage, according to the terms of any written contract which said parties may have made with any lawful timber agent; and, in the absence of any such written contract at ten cents per cubic foot.

*Ordered*, That E. J. Berry, the Agent of this Board, be

authorized to settle with all parties who cut timber prior to the 1st of March under contract for stumpage, to collect the amount due and receipt therefor, and to call upon the Sheriffs for assistance when a seizure or prosecution is necessary; and that the Salesman notify the Sheriffs of the counties where such timber is lying of this order.

*Ordered*, That E. J. Berry, Agent, be requested to obtain what information and evidence he can as to the amounts collected by the former timber agents on account of stumpage or trespass on the State lands and report to this Board.

*Ordered*, That Mr. Berry be instructed to ascertain as far as he can, the quantity of timber cut by George W. Moody upon the State lands near the Suwannee river, and to collect the amount due therefor upon such terms as are reasonable according to the value of timber in that locality; and in case of refusal to pay, to report the facts to this Board; and, further, that Mr. Berry be instructed to ascertain as far as he can the amount of trespass committed upon the State lands by George F. Nutter, and report the same to this Board.

Mr. Berry having reported that Mr. Henry A. Wyse had cut eighteen (18) sticks of spar timber upon State land near the Santa Fe River, alleging that it was done through the mistake of his employees, and having asked instructions respecting the same, it was

*Ordered*, That Mr. Wyse be authorized to remove said timber upon the payment of fifteen dollars for each spar, the whole amount of \$270 to be paid before the removal of any one. In case of failure or refusal to pay said amount our agent is instructed to take possession of the timber and report to this Board. In case of an attempt to remove the timber without payment, our agent is instructed to call upon the Sheriff to seize the timber, and to take such other action as the circumstances of the case may require.

The Treasurer reported that he had received from Newton Sapp, Sheriff of LaFayette county, \$308.70 collected on account of stumpage for cedar cut upon State lands prior to March 1st, with a statement showing the whole amount collected to be \$441.60—amount retained for expenses, \$30, commissions \$102.90—leaving balance as paid over \$308.70.

Ordered, That the Treasurer inquire of Mr. Sapp the items of the expenses amounting to \$30 retained.

The Treasurer also reported the receipt of \$210 from H. P. Jackson, Sheriff of Levy County, on account of stumpage for cedar, without any statement.

Ordered, That the Treasurer demand from Mr. Jackson a statement of moneys received by him on said account showing the aggregate amount collected and the different items of credit.

On motion, an order was drawn in favor E. J. Berry for one hundred dollars, the amount of his salary as Timber Agent for the month of June.

The Attorney General expressed verbally his opinion as to the power of the Board to employ Count Wassilieff as local agent in New York for the purposes of immigration, to the effect that the Board had power to appoint an agent in New York for the sale of lands belonging to the Internal Improvement Fund, but could not appoint an Agent for a purpose which could only collaterally benefit the fund, though such action might be sustained by the courts if the result should really benefit the Fund.

And thereupon, the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration was requested to correspond with Mr. Vose and other creditors of the Fund and ascertain their views with respect to the policy of employing an Agent in New York for the sale of lands at a fixed salary.

His Excellency, Gov. Drew, laid before the Board a letter from Washington R. Hanson, of Baltimore, Md., requesting information respecting Florida, which was read and referred to the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration for reply.

The following accounts were presented, approved and ordered to be paid:

|                                                 |        |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------|
| W. G. Stewart, P. M. for postage, May 27th..... | \$9.00 |
| M. A. Williams Agent, Comms. on sales in June.. | 75.14  |
| W. Gwynn, Treasurer, amt paid for exchange..... | 3.42   |
| Do. Do. " " for binding.....                    | 4.00   |

An account was presented by J. A. Lee, Register, and S. F. Halliday, Receiver of the U. S. Land office at Gainesville for \$5,814.46 for entering upon their records the approval of 896,915 acres of swamp lands and 33,400.32 acres of Internal Improvement Lands, which was read and

referred to the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration for investigation.

An application was received from Elbert Carter for a change of his entry No. 7254 from the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 31, Township 20, South, Range 35, East to the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 36, Township 20 South, Range 34, East, which was granted upon condition that the said Carter re-convey to the Trustees the tract originally entered.

Application was received from Isaac Alderman for a change of his entry No. 7689, from the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  and NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 24, Township 21, South, Range 20, East, to other lands; which was granted upon condition of re-conveyance.

The proposition heretofore made by J. M. Bryan and others and by J. M. Mabbette for the drainage of lands, were taken up for consideration and declined.

The Abstracts of the Salesman and statements by the Treasurer for the months of April and May were presented and filed.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, July 9, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

Maj. Edward Priess appeared before the Board and read an article by himself in the "Semi-Tropical" upon the subject of wine and wine culture, and also the first of a series of articles written by himself for publication in pamphlet or book form on same subject.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.



Tallahassee, Florida, July 16, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The minutes of the last two meetings were read and approved.

A report was received from E. J. Berry showing the amount of pine timber cut upon State land by Henry A. Wyse to be four sticks of spar timber in Section 12, T. 4, S. R. 13, E., and 30 pieces of Ranging timber upon Section 25, T. 6, S. R. 14 E., and Section 30, T. 6, S. R. 15 E.

It being shown that the land upon which the Spar timber was cut is not State land, no action was taken in respect thereof. It being represented that the Ranging timber was cut by the employees of Mr. Wyse in his absence through mistake. *It was ordered.* That Mr. Wyse be permitted to enter the  $S\frac{1}{2}$  of  $SE\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 25, T. 6, S. R. 14, and the  $W\frac{1}{2}$  of  $SW\frac{1}{4}$  Section 30, T. 6, S. R. 15, E. and upon paying for the land to remove the timber.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, July 17, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

An account was presented by Alonzo Fowle, Publisher of the Florida Immigrant for one month's subscription for 1,000 copies of said paper, and postage for mailing

same, amounting to \$72.50, which was approved and ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, July 19, 1877.

The Board met in the State Land office,

Present: Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

On motion, Mr. Gwynn was chosen President pro tem. during the absence of the Governor.

Mr. T. J. Moore appeared before the Board in reference to the cedar recently seized by the Sheriff of Wakulla county, and offered to pay the stumpage therefor, if the State would dismiss the proceedings and pay the costs; Which proposition was not accepted.

Mr. Corley represented to the Board that at the time of the sale of the Florida, Atlantic and Gulf Railroad by the Trustees in 1868, a portion of the moneys received was invested in the purchase of 416 bonds of said Railroad Company the interest on which had been guaranteed by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, and that said Bonds had been canceled, but no list thereof had been recorded on the minutes of the Board. It was thereupon

*Ordered*, That the Secretary record in the minutes the numbers of the guaranteed First Mortgage Bonds of the Florida, Atlantic and Gulf Central Railroad Company which were purchased and canceled as stated.

And the Secretary thereupon recorded the same as follows:

*Numbers of the Guaranteed First Mortgage Bonds of the Florida, Atlantic and Gulf Central Railroad Company which were purchased with \$83,200 of the moneys received from the sale of said Railroad by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, March 4th, 1868.*

Nos. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21  
 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41  
 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 93 94 95 99 101  
 102 103 104 105 106 107 118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125  
 126 127 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 153 154 155 156  
 157 158 159 160 161 162 163 164 165 166 167 168 169 170  
 171 172 174 175 176 177 178 179 180 181 182 183 184 185  
 186 187 188 189 190 191 192 193 194 195 196 197 198 199  
 200 201 202 203 204 205 206 207 208 209 210 211 212 213  
 214 215 216 217 218 219 220 224 225 226 227 228 229 230  
 231 234 236 237 242 243 244 245 246 247 248 249 250 251 252  
 253 254 255 256 257 258 259 260 261 262 263 264 265 266  
 267 268 269 270 271 272 273 274 275 276 277 278 279 280  
 281 282 283 284 285 286 287 288 289 290 291 292 293 294  
 295 296 297 298 299 300 301 302 303 304 305 306 307 308  
 309 310 313 314 315 316 319 320 321 322 324 325 331 332  
 333 334 335 339 340 341 342 343 344 345 346 347 348 349  
 350 351 352 353 354 355 356 357 358 359 360 362 364 365  
 366 367 368 369 370 371 372 373 374 375 376 377 378 379  
 380 381 382 383 384 385 386 387 388 389 390 391 392 395  
 396 399 400 401 402 403 404 405 406 407 408 409 410 411  
 412 413 414 415 416 417 418 419 420 421 422 423 424 425  
 426 427 428 429 430 431 432 436 437 438 439 440 441 442  
 443 444 445 446 447 448 449 450 451 452 453 454 455 456  
 457 458 459 460 461 462 463 464 465 466 467 468 469 470  
 471 472 473 474 475 476 477 478 479 480 481 482 483 484  
 485 486 487 488 489 490 491 492 502 503 504 505 506 508 509  
 511 512 513 514 515 516 517 518 519 520 521 522 523 524 539  
 540 541 542, making altogether 416 bonds.

On motion, the Attorney General was requested to correspond with the Executors of Edward Houstoun with respect to the balances unaccounted for of moneys placed in the hands of said Houstoun by the said Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund in 1868 for the purchase of the outstanding bonds of the Florida Atlantic and Gulf Central Railroad Company, being part of the purchase money received from the sale of said road in 1868; and the

moneys placed in his hands belonging to the Sinking Fund to be invested in guaranteed Railroad Bonds.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:           WALTER GWYNN, President pro tem.  
                  HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, August 1, 1877.

The Board met in the Attorney General's office.

Present:   Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

          Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

          George P. Raney, Attorney General.

          Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

On motion, Mr. Columbus Drew was appointed President pro tem to preside during any temporary absence of the Governor, until otherwise ordered by the Board.

The bills for salaries during the past month were approved.

The following bills were presented, approved and ordered paid:

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer, for express charges, \$1.50.

W. G. Stewart, P. M., for postage and box rent, \$30.65.

The Treasurer presented the report of H. P. Jackson, Sheriff of Levy County, for moneys received from stumpage, embracing the items as follows:

|                              |          |          |
|------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Total amount collected.....  |          | \$981 50 |
| Credits claimed.....         |          |          |
| Cash paid over.....          | \$647 99 |          |
| 25 per cent commissions..... | 245 37   |          |
| Traveling expenses .....     | 61 75    |          |
| Balance due .....            | 26 39    | \$981 50 |

Mr. Jackson expressed an opinion that he should receive credit for commissions on \$500 paid over to the Trustees by Dr. A. E. Hodges for cedar cut in Levy county under contract with the Board of Trustees.

The Board decided that Mr. Jackson is not entitled to a credit for his traveling expenses, nor for commissions upon the amount paid by Dr. Hodges.

On motion, the Treasurer was authorized to advance to Mr. Corley two hundred dollars to defray his traveling ex-

penses to Washington in looking after the interests of the Internal Improvement Fund. Said amount to be accounted for by Mr. Corley on his return.

The proposition of John T. Drew to settle the judgment of F. Vose against the Trustees in consideration of four millions acres of land, was taken up for consideration, and the proposition was declined.

The Commissioner of Lands and Immigration, to whom was referred the account of J. A. Lee, Register, and S. F. Halliday, late Receiver of the U. S. Land Office at Gainesville, for noting on the records the approval of 896,915 acres of swamp lands at \$1.00 for each 160 acres and 33,400.32 acres of Internal Improvement lands at same rate, making \$5,605.71 for the swamp lands and \$208.75 for the Internal Improvement Lands—total \$5,814.76, reported that he had corresponded with the Commissioner of the General Land Office respecting said account, and had been by him officially informed that Registers and Receivers are not entitled to fees for noting the selection or approval of Swamp Lands—that they are entitled to one dollar each for each final location of Internal Improvement lands—and that the amount due for the noting of the 33,400.02 acres is \$418. The Commissioner further reported that he was instructed that these fees are payable directly to the Receiver at present in commission, and are not under any circumstances to be paid to late officers who are not legally authorized to collect them.

On motion, it was, by unanimous vote,

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer pay to John Varnum, Receiver, etc. U. S. Land Office at Gainesville, four hundred and eighteen dollars, fees due said office for noting the final location of 33,400 acres of land confirmed to the State under the 8th Section of the Act of Congress approved September 4, 1841.

The Commissioner of Lands and Immigration read a letter from Samuel A. Swann, dated New York July 17, announcing that he would leave for Europe the next day to prosecute negotiations for the sale of lands under his appointment by the Trustees, and giving some of his views respecting the prospect of success.

The Commissioner of Lands and Immigration laid before the Board a communication from A. S. Mann of Hernando county, reciting that certain lands had been sold by



the Trustees to S. S. Alexander and a certificate of purchase issued therefor, but no deed made—that Alexander is dead—that the lands were sold for taxes in 1871-2 and 3 and bought in by the State—that the writer purchased the lands from the State according to the laws in force at the time of the purchase and received a deed therefor. He now wishes to know whether the Trustees will convey the lands to him by deed. After some discussion it was decided by the Board that the Trustees can not make a deed to the purchaser under tax sale without an assignment to him of the original certificate of purchase.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: C. DREW, President pro tem.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, August 3, 1877.

The Board met in the Comptroller's office.

Present: Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commr. of Lands & Immigration.

The account of M. A. Williams, Agent for the sale of land at Jacksonville, for commissions on sales made by him in the month of July, said commissions amounting to \$82.47, was presented, approved and ordered to be paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: C. DREW, President pro tem.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, August 14, 1877.

The Board met.

Present: Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

A communication from A. N. Pacetti, Sheriff and ex-officio Timber Agent of St. Johns County, in regard to trespass, and the bill of said Timber Agent for services rendered in the ascertaining and prosecution of such tres-

pass, including bill of Charles F. Hopkins for surveying, were referred to the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration for his report as to the necessity of the work and the reasonableness of the charge for surveying.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: C. DREW, President pro tem.

Tallahassee, Florida, August 27, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The Attorney General was requested to take the necessary steps to have the title to the Chattahoochee Arsenal conveyed to the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund under the provisions of the Act of Congress of December 15, 1870.

A communication was read from Samuel A. Swann, dated from London the 11th instant, giving a statement of the condition of affairs there in connection with the proposed sale of three millions acres of lands.

A letter from W. F. Luther, of Lake City, addressed to His Excellency, the Governor, was read, in which Mr. Luther recommended the adoption of a system of selling cedar from the State lands on payment of stumpage.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary reply to the letter of Mr. Luther and say that the Trustees are not willing to change their present policy by adopting the system of charging stumpage.

The following bills were presented, approved and ordered paid:

*Alonzo Fowle*, Publisher of the *Florida Immigrant*, for the subscription to said paper for August, and for postage and wrapping paper, \$77.45.

*Hugh A. Corley*, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration, for his traveling expenses to Washington and back, \$107.20.

*William C. Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Hillsborough County*, for recording deeds re-conveying to the Trustees lands erroneously conveyed to the parties, \$1.90.

*Geo. P. Raney, Attorney General*, for telegrams, postage, copies and other miscellaneous expenses incurred in attending to various suits now pending against the Trustees, \$11.15.

*Charles H. Foster, Clerk of the Supreme Court*, for deposit or docket fee in the case of the St. Johns Railway Co. vs. The Trustees in which an appeal has been taken, \$15.00.

On motion, unanimously adopted, the Treasurer was instructed to pay to George P. Raney, Attorney General, two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) on account of professional services.

An application was received from William B. Moody for a change of his entry No. 8179 from the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 20, in Township 30, South Range 20, East, to the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of the same section; and the application being accompanied with the affidavit prescribed in such cases, and a deed re-conveying to the Trustees the first named tract, it was ordered that the change of entry be allowed.

The Secretary laid before the Board the affidavit of William G. Ponce in reference to the cedar cut by him in St. Johns County, which had been seized by the Sheriff of said county, alleging reasons why said seizure should be dismissed as unjust to affiant, and stating that his failure to enter the land before cutting the timber was owing to his inability to procure the services of a surveyor to ascertain the true numbers; that he did enter the land as soon as the numbers were ascertained, etc., etc., etc., which affidavit was accompanied with corroborating statements by Wm. Mickler & Chas. F. Hopkins, Surveyors.

On motion; the Secretary was instructed to write to the Sheriff of St. Johns county authorizing him to dismiss the attachments against the timber cut by William G. Ponce and Henry Godwin, in his discretion, provided the costs and expenses are paid by said parties.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, August 28, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

Mr. D. H. Elliott appeared before the Board and requested the aid or endorsement of the Trustees for the establishment of a "Home for Immigrants" at Live Oak, where they could leave their families while examining the country for a proper place for settlement. The Trustees unanimously expressed themselves in favor of the establishment of such an institution, but considering that the moneys of the Fund could not be appropriated in aid thereof only recommended and endorsed the plan proposed.

Mr. Elliott also called the attention of the Board to the National Immigration Bureau established at Philadelphia, and explained the objects thereof, but no action of the Board was taken in reference thereto.

A letter to the Governor from Charles O. Brown, Attorney at Law, of Washington, D. C., applying for an agency to represent the State of Florida before the Land Department at Washington in obtaining indemnity for Swamp Lands sold by the United States, was laid before the Board, read, and laid on the Table.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

14 I. I.

Tallahassee, Florida, August 31, 1877.

The Board met in the State Land Office.

Present: Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

Mr. Raney was chosen President pro tem.

The minutes of the proceedings of the Board on and since the 16th July were read and approved.

The following accounts were presented, approved and ordered paid:

*M. A. Williams*, for commissions on sales the present month \$30.55.

*Hugh A. Corley*, for purchase of Copp's Land Laws and one year's subscription to Copp's Land owner & postage. \$10.10.

*Hugh A. Corley, Salesman*, for amount refunded M. J. Sutton, overpaid on entry No. 8223, \$8.01.

On motion, the Salesman was authorized to have the original swamp land plats, filed by Randolph and Wells, mounted on cloth for better preservation, provided the expense thereof shall not exceed seven cents per plat.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. P. RANEY,  
President pro tem.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, September 7, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

Letters from A. N. Pacetti, Sheriff of St. Johns County, and J. J. Daniel, Attorney, respecting the trespass on Swamp Lands by William G. Ponce and the seizure of cedar cut by him.

It was ordered, That the matter be referred to samuel Y. Finley, State's Attorney, for adjustment; and that



the Secretary transmit to him a copy of the action of the Board in regard thereto on the 27th August, and a copy of the letter of Mr. A. N. Pacetti of September 1st.

His Excellency laid before the Board a letter from C. D. Willard, Esq., referring to the proposed negotiations in Europe for the sale of three millions acres of land, which was read.

Also, a letter from Theodore C. Cone applying for the agency to represent the State before the General Land Office for the purpose of adjusting the old land claims, which was read.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, September 22, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands  
and Immigration.

The minutes of the two last meetings were read and approved.

Samuel A. Long having purchased from the Trustees, on the 25th July 1873, the North half of Lot No. 8 of Section 25, in Township 14, South, of Range 23, East, whic had been sold to Hubbard L. Hart in 1868, and having applied for the cancellation of the erroneous entry and having made a deed reconveying and relinquishing the land to the Trustees, it was

*Ordered*, That said entry of Samuel A. Long be cancelled, and the purchase money paid therefor (thirty dollars, \$30) be refunded, together with one dollar the fee for recording the deed of relinquishment.

An account of W. G. Stewart, Postmaster, for six dollars (\$6.00) for stamps, etc., furnished the Salesman's Office, was presented, approved and ordered paid.

The account of Dyke and Son for printing for the Salesman's office amounting to \$58.00 was presented and referred to Mr. Columbus Drew for examination. Mr. Drew examined the account and recommended the payment of the account with a deduction from several items reducing the amount to \$54 and it was so ordered.

Notice was received from the United States Land Office at Gainesville that complaint had been made by Ziba King against the State, alleging that the  $W\frac{1}{2}$  of  $NW\frac{1}{4}$  &  $SE\frac{1}{4}$  of  $NW\frac{1}{4}$  &  $NE\frac{1}{4}$  of  $SW\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 18, Township 39, South, Range 24, East, is not swamp nor overflowed land, with a view to the cancellation of the claim of the State to said tract of land, and summoning the parties to appear at the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Manatee County at Pine Level before said Clerk on the 5th day of November next to respond and furnish testimony concerning the true character of the land. •

*Ordered*, That said notice be referred to M. A. Williams.

Mr. Columbus Drew laid before the Board a letter from Walter R. Yates, Special Deputy United States Marshal, enclosing copy of a subpoena issued from the Clerk's office of the United States Court in Jacksonville in a case brought therein by G. H. Johnson against the Florida, Atlantic and Gulf Central Railroad Company, the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund and others, and requesting that the Trustees acknowledge service of the subpoena.

On motion, Mr. Drew was requested to reply that the Trustees have heretofore refused to acknowledge service of legal process, and decline to do so in this case.

The Secretary laid before the Board letters from Samuel A. Swann of the 17th, 18th and 30th August, from which it seems that the main difficulty in effecting a sale of 3,000,000 acres of lands at thirty cents per acre arises from an impression in London that no valid title can be made to the lands of the Trustees unless the decree of Vose and others against the Trustees is satisfied. It further appears that John T. Drew, Esquire, the Attorney of Mr. Vose was in England for the purpose of selling

the interest of Mr. Vose in said decree, claimed by him to amount to \$617,658. And that a contract had been entered into with one John H. Fry, claiming to represent the promoters of certain canal enterprises in Florida, and the said John T. Drew, Attorney of Francis Vose, and the said Samuel A. Swann, Agent of the Trustees, purporting to be made for the facilitating of the sale, the settlement of the decree, etc., which contract was enclosed by the said Swann, and is in the words and figures following, to-wit:

"Whereas, John H. Fry, a citizen of the United States now residing in London, England, is the promoter and owner of the Atlantic and Gulf Ship Canal Enterprise, to be constructed across the Peninsula of Florida, and also part owner and Promoter of the Southern Inland Navigation and Improvement Company of Florida, and as such Promoter of these Enterprises has negotiated the sale of bonds upon grants by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida of two millions three hundred thousand acres of the public lands to the last named Company, but which negotiations are rendered inoperative because of a certain decree which has been granted by the United States Circuit Court of the Northern District of Florida in favor of Francis Vose of New York and others, which decree is in the nature of a first lien on all the lands held by the said Trustees, under grant from the United States of America, to the amount of six hundred and seventeen thousand six hundred and fifty eight dollars (\$617,658), more or less, being the principal with costs; interest and so forth, in such decree, and which decree expressly declares that the Grants, Contracts and conveyances made to and with the said Southern Inland Navigation and Improvement Company are null and void. And Whereas (A) the said Trustees have appointed Samuel A. Swann, Esqr., Agent, with full powers to sell Three million acres of public lands of Florida, for the purpose of procuring the necessary funds for the discharge of said decree and for other purposes, thus making the lands of the State, not so sold, available for Works of Internal Improvement, and available under a re-organization of said canal projects, and contracts that may hereafter be made with said Trustees.

"B. Now Therefore, in consideration of the premises, and  
 "in further consideration of one dollar (\$1), each to the  
 "other in hand paid, the receipt whereof is hereby  
 "acknowledged, *This Agreement* is made and entered into  
 "this seventeenth day of August one thousand eight hun-  
 "dred and seventy seven by and between the undersigned,  
 "and *Witnesseth*

"C. The said John H. Fry hereby agrees to purchase for  
 "himself, his heirs executors assigns and representatives  
 "in business, the said Three million of acres of the  
 "public lands of Florida from Samuel A. Swann, Agent  
 "as aforesaid, and to pay or cause to be paid for the same  
 "the amount of Nine hundred thousand dollars  
 "(\$900,000) in United States Currency as follows,  
 "videlicet:

"The aforesaid decree in favor of Francis Vose Esquire  
 "covering his claim against the Internal Improvement  
 "Fund of the State of Florida upon all coupons upon  
 "bonds held by said Vose, guaranteed by said Fund and  
 "comprehended in the said decree of the United States  
 "Circuit Court, or that may be further allowed by the  
 "said Trustees, together with all interest, expenses, costs,  
 "and so forth which may be allowed by the said  
 "Trustees, or by the said Court, amounting in the  
 "aggregate to Six hundred and seventeen thousand six  
 "hundred and fifty-eight dollars (\$617,658), more or less,  
 "shall be fully settled, satisfied and discharged, and such  
 "discharge shall be accepted by said Swann as part pay-  
 "ment of said land, to the extent of the sum fixed as  
 "aforesaid subject to the approval of the Trustees  
 "aforesaid.

"All coupons on or from the bonds of the Florida  
 "Railroad, for which the said Trust fund of the State of  
 "Florida is liable, in accordance with the decision of the  
 "United States Court aforesaid in the suit of said Francis  
 "Vose, or that have been found properly verified and  
 "approved by the Master appointed by said Court, shall  
 "be paid and cancelled by the said Trustees or the said  
 "Master, from the balance of the nine hundred thousand  
 "dollars (\$900,000) to be provided by said Fry as afore-  
 "said (in payment for the said Three million Acres of  
 "land) after settlement of the said Vose decree.

"The balance of said Nine hundred thousand dollars  
 "(\$900,000), after the payment of said decree, and of

"such coupons as aforesaid, shall be paid in lawful money of the United States, to the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund or to their agent Samuel A. Swann, Esquire.

"And the said John H. Fry, as the Promoter of the Enterprises aforesaid, *hereby agrees* that no action shall be taken by the Canal Companies he represents in regard to the sale of their said bonds, based as aforesaid, upon the grant of two million three hundred thousand acres of Public Lands to the said Southern Inland Navigation and Improvement Company, until this agreement shall have been fully carried out.

"And John T. Drew, Attorney for said Francis Vose, hereby agrees as such Attorney under and in pursuance of his powers in the premises, that a complete assignment of the said decree, and of all the rights and equities of said Vose under the same, and of all coupons for which said Trustees are or may be liable held by him, shall be made by him to the said John H. Fry, or some person to be named by him, upon deposit by the said Fry, with the Rothschilds, Bankers, London, England, or with Drexel, Morgan & Co. of New York to the order of Francis Vose of the sum of six hundred and seventeen thousand six hundred and fifty-eight dollars (\$617,658) in United States currency or its Sterling Equivalent, or of such other sum as may be agreed upon by the parties to such decree or fixed by the Court as due thereupon. Such deposit to be applicable to the amount due on said decree and for the purpose of facilitating this transaction, the said Drew agrees to deposit with said Rothschilds, or with Drexel, Morgan & Co. of New York assignment and subrogation within sixty days from the date hereof, in order that this agreement may be carried out immediately or within a reasonable time thereafter."

"And the said Fry hereby agrees to purchase for the sum of Six hundred and seventeen thousand six hundred and fifty-eight dollars (\$617,658) or for such other amount as may be agreed upon by the parties to said decree or fixed by the said Court, the said decree of Francis Vose, and in addition thereto agrees to purchase all the coupons of the bonds of the Florida Railroads, that are included in said decree or that may be



"ascertained by the Master, under the said court, to be a  
 "proper lien upon the said Fund, providing the same  
 "shall not exceed in principal and interest the balance of  
 "Nine hundred thousand dollars (\$900,000), which may  
 "remain after payment of the amount due to said Francis  
 "Vose as aforesaid.

"D. And Samuel A. Swann, Agent as aforesaid, agrees as  
 "such Agent to sell to said John H. Fry Three million  
 "acres of the public lands of the State of Florida,  
 "to be located in accordance with the terms of his said  
 "agency, for the sum of Nine hundred thousand dollars  
 "(\$900,000) United States Currency and further agrees  
 "to accept payment of such purchase money in the man-  
 "ner hereinbefore set forth, subject to the approval of  
 "the said Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of  
 "Florida.

"E. And the said Swann further agrees, and hereby binds  
 "the said Trustees, that at the time of and concurrent  
 "with the payment of such purchase money, in the  
 "manner specified, full and complete conveyances suf-  
 "ficient to vest the right and title of such lands in fee  
 "simple, free from all incumbrance, shall be made to  
 "said Fry or to his legal representatives in that behalf.

"It is further agreed by the said John H. Fry that the  
 "purchase money herein named, shall be paid, as herein  
 "set forth, within sixty days (or a reasonable extension  
 "for good cause shown) from the day on which said Fry  
 "shall have been furnished with a properly certified and  
 "authenticated schedule, approved and signed by said  
 "Trustees and by each creditor, or by the proper officer of  
 "said Court, setting forth the actual amount to be paid  
 "to said Vose and to each of the other creditors of the  
 "said Trustees, whose claims in any way constitute, or  
 "may constitute, a lien charge or claim upon the said  
 "Three million acres of land hereby sold to said Fry, or  
 "that can cloud his title thereto, under this purchase;  
 "and thirty days at least, or a longer time if required  
 "shall be allowed to such Trustees or their Agent to  
 "make out and deliver such schedule to said Fry, and in  
 "the meantime it is stipulated that no party to this agree-  
 "ment shall take any steps calculated to delay or prevent  
 "its performance, or contrary to the letter, and spirit of  
 "this contract."

"And the said John H. Fry, in consideration of the premises, binds himself to a faithful performance of this agreement under the following penalties—In case the said Fry fails, through his own negligence refusal or inability, to purchase and pay for the said Vose decree the sum of Six hundred and seventeen thousand six hundred and fifty-eight dollars (\$617,658) or such other sum as may be settled by the parties thereto, or fixed by the said Court as due thereupon, within the time fixed by this contract for the payment of the purchase money of the lands herein sold, then the said John H. Fry hereby agrees and binds himself, his representatives in business, his heirs executors and assigns, to pay to Francis Vose, Esqr., the sum of ten thousand pounds (£10,000) sterling as forfeit, and in case the said Fry shall fail, through his own fault or refusal, to pay the said purchase money in accordance with the terms of this contract then he likewise binds himself his heirs executors and assigns to pay to the said Samuel A. Swann, Agent as aforesaid, the further sum of ten thousand pounds (£10,000) Sterling, as forfeit money, and as security for such sums, hereby agreed to be forfeited as penalties, the said Fry agrees to deposit ten Thousand pounds (£10,000) with the Rothschilds, Bankers, London, or with Drexel, Morgan & Co. of New York at his option and the further sum of ten thousand pounds (£10,000) with Brown Shipley & Co. of London or with Drexel, Morgan & Co. of New York, at his option, within twenty days from the date upon which he shall be furnished with the schedule of liens and claims hereinbefore described *Provided* that said schedule shall show the charges and liens against the lands herein contracted for to amount in the aggregate of principal and interest to a sum not exceeding Nine hundred thousand dollars (\$900,000)."

"In Witness whereof, the parties to this contract have hereto set their hands and seals the day and year above written as the date of this agreement."

"In the presence of (Signed,)"

(Signed)

"JOHN H. FRY." (L. S.)

"J. H. STEDWELL," "JOHN T. DREW, (L. S.)

"JOHN DAY."

Attorney in fact for Francis Vose,"

"As to clauses A. B. C. D. & E.,  
 but with respect to other parts  
 of this agreement subject en-  
 tirely to the audit and ap-  
 proval of the Trustees of the  
 I. I. Fund of Fla."

"SAMUEL A. SWANN  
 (L. S.)  
 Special Agt. Trustees  
 I. I. Fund State Fla."

Letters were also received from John T. Drew, Esquire, as of counsel for Mr. Francis Vose, advising that the amount due to Mr. Vose be fixed under a special agreement and that payment of such amount be secured thereunder from the sale of 3,000,000 acres of land, and also enclosing a special agreement prepared to cover the case, in the words and figures following to wit:

"WHEREAS, The Florida Railroad was sold to 'E. N. Dickerson and Associates' on the Sixth day of October 'one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six by the Trustees of 'The Internal Improvement Fund of Florida' under third section of Act of December 29th, 1854, approved by the Governor of Florida January 6th, 1855 and entitled "An Act to provide for and encourage a liberal system of Internal Improvements in this State" said sale having been made because the said Florida Railroad had failed to pay the interest upon passed due coupons of its guaranteed bonds and had also failed to provide the specified 'one per cent' of its bonded debt due to 'the Sinking Fund' as required under the afore-said Act of 1854."

"AND WHEREAS one Francis Vose, Esquire, a citizen of the United States and a resident of the State of New York was the owner of one hundred and ninety-five thousand dollars of the bonds of said Florida Railroad and refused to participate in the purchase of said Railroad or to take the twenty per cent. of the amount of his bonds in full settlement of the same as provided for under the sale of E. N. Dickerson and Associates."

"AND WHEREAS the said Vose did institute suit in the United States Circuit Court for the Northern District of Florida and has finally obtained a decree and judgment against the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida for the full amount of the coupons owned by him the said Vose together with the specified

"interest thereon together with all legal costs expenses  
 "of suit claimed by said Vose to amount to six hundred  
 "and seventeen thousand six hundred and fifty-eight  
 "dollars United States currency (\$617,658).

"AND WHEREAS the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida are anxious to have the said  
 "decree and judgment of the said Vose liquidated at an  
 "early day in order that the remaining lands held by  
 "said Trustees may be made available for matters of internal improvement as provided for under the Act of  
 "December 29th, 1854—AND WHEREAS the said Trustees have appointed Samuel A. Swann Esquire of Florida  
 "an Agent of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida to sell three millions acres  
 "(3,000,000) of lands of Florida in order to procure the  
 "necessary funds to liquidate the said Vose decree and  
 "other equitable claims made upon the said Trustees.  
 "AND WHEREAS John T. Drew, Esquire, of Counsel for  
 "Francis Vose, Esquire, is now in Europe and is acting  
 "with said Swann in an endeavor to sell three millions  
 "3,000,000 acres of lands as aforesaid to certain parties  
 "whom the said Drew claims are ready to purchase the  
 "said Vose decree under certain conditions and exchange  
 "the same for Florida Lands at Thirty Cents United  
 "States Currency per acre. NOW THEREFORE to facilitate the sale of said lands and to liquidate the Vose decree by means of such sale and to fix the amount that the  
 "Trustees are willing to allow the said Vose under said  
 "decree Provided the sale of three million acres 3,000,000  
 "is made as aforesaid and at not less than thirty cents an  
 "acre United States currency. IT IS HEREBY AGREED  
 "by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of  
 "Florida and by Francis Vose Esquire of New York that  
 "in full settlement of all his legal and equitable rights  
 "and claims under said decree of whatever nature against  
 "the Board of Trustees of The Internal Improvement  
 "Fund of Florida or The State of Florida or The Florida  
 "Rail Road save as to the principal of said bonds owned  
 "by said Vose which become due in 1891 and are not provided for under said decree, there shall be paid to the  
 "said Francis Vose, out of the proceeds of the sale of  
 "said three millions (3,000,000) acres of lands to be sold  
 "by Samuel A. Swann Agent of the Board of Trustees of

"the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida as aforesaid, "the sum of six hundred and seventeen thousand six "hundred and fifty-eight dollars (\$617,658) in liquidation "of the decree and judgment of said Vose (a copy of "which decree is hereunto annexed) marked Exhibit A."

"The said sum of \$617,658 is claimed by the said Vose "and his counsel as equitably due the said Vose under "said decree, and includes payment of all coupons due or "that may become due upon the Florida Rail Road bonds "held by said Vose (a list of said bonds and Coupons is "hereunto attached marked 'Exhibit B') together with "all interest upon said passed due coupons and all legal "and equitable expenses of the said Vose in the suit "aforesaid."

"IT IS ALSO AGREED by the Trustees of the Internal "Improvement Fund of Florida that upon the surrender of "the said decree of Francis Vose or his subrogee under "the regular legal formalities for such cases made and "provided, the said Trustees will allow the sum of six "hundred and seventeen thousand six hundred and fifty "eight dollars United States Currency \$617,658 in liqui- "dation of said surrendered decree, to apply towards the "payment of Nine Hundred thousand dollars United "States Currency (\$900,000) the stipulated price of the "three million acres (3,000,000) of lands to be sold as "aforesaid by Samuel A. Swann Agent for said Trustees; "or the said Trustees will convey by warranty deed to "the said Francis Vose or his legal subrogee to all his "rights under said judgment and decree, three million "acres (3,000,000) of lands under the regulations and "conditions laid down in the instructions of Samuel A. "Swann Agent of said Trustees—Upon the proper sur- "render of the said Vose decree and the payment of two "hundred and eighty two thousand three hundred and "forty two dollars (\$282,342) U. S. Currency to the said "Trustees."

"It is mutually agreed by all parties hereto that after "this agreement has been duly executed by all parties "hereto, the same shall be deposited with the The Roth- "childs, Bankers, London, England in Escro, until the "sale of said three million acres of lands of Florida as "aforesaid, and to be delivered to the parties in interest



"after such sale or to be cancelled in the event of a failure  
"to make such sale."

"Given under our hands this.....day of.....  
"one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven at the  
"City of Tallahassee, Florida, U. S. A."

"The Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of  
"Florida By"

(L. S.)

(L. S.)

• (L. S.)

(L. S.)

(L. S.)

"Given under my hand this.....day of.....  
"one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven at the  
"City of New York, U. S. A. Reserving to myself the  
"right to designate Brown Bros. of New York instead of  
"the Rothschilds London, England."

(Signed.) "F. VOSE."

As John T. Drew, Esquire, is expected to be in Tallahassee shortly to confer with the Trustees respecting the proposed agreements, the letters and accompanying documents were postponed until his arrival.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, September 27, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands &  
Immigration.

The minutes of the last meeting were ready, amended and approved.

Notice having been received from John T. Drew, Esquire, that he cannot be present to confer personally with the Trustees with regard to the agreements pro-

posed to the Board respecting the sale of lands in Europe and the disposal of the proceeds in connection with the Vose decree, the Board proceeded to consider the agreements submitted at the last meeting of the Board, one signed by John H. Fry, John T. Drew, Attorney in fact for Francis Vose, and Samuel A. Swann, as agent of the Trustees, and the other signed by Francis Vose and submitted for the signatures of the Trustees.

On motion, both submitted agreements were disapproved by the Board, and the Secretary instructed to inform Mr. J. T. Drew and Mr. Samuel A. Swann of such disapproval, and Gov. Drew and Mr. Corley were requested to proceed to New York to confer with Mr. Vose and his attorney.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW, President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, October 30, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The minutes of the last meeting were read, amended and approved.

Gov. Drew and Mr. Corley made a verbal report of their conference in New York with Mr. Vose and J. T. Drew, Esq., his attorney, from which it appears that Mr. Vose concurs with the Trustees respecting the proper course to be pursued with regard to the funds in the event of a sale of lands to parties in Europe by Samuel A. Swann, the Agent of the Trustees. After conferring with Messrs. Vose and Drew, Mr. Corley addressed the following letter to Mr. Swann:

New York, October 17, 1877.

Samuel A. Swann, Esq.,  
15 New Cavendish Street,  
London, England.

Dear Sir:

Several letters have been received from you respecting your progress in negotiating the sale of lands belonging to the Internal Improvement Fund, but none of them called for any official action by the Trustees except that enclosing a "Contract of purchase of lands and settlement of a certain Decree and Judgment," signed by John H. Fry, by John T. Drew, Attorney of Francis Vose, and by yourself as the Agent of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund. That contract is disapproved and is herewith returned. I cannot say that there is anything objectionable in the terms of the contract, but the Trustees are not willing to go outside of their official duties and become parties to any agreement between Mr. Vose and any purchaser of his decree. That is a matter entirely between the interested parties.

Gov. Drew and myself came on to New York at the request of the Board to confer with Mr. Vose and his Attorney, John T. Drew, Esq., and since arriving here have received your letter of the 27th ult. addressed to me at Tallahassee and forwarded to me here. I am glad to notice that you are confident of success.

It seems from your letters that an impression exists in England that the validity of any sale by the Trustees would depend upon the subsequent discharge of Mr. Vose's claim with the purchase money; and you suggest that the Trustees agree upon a certain fixed amount as due Mr. Vose, in order that you may be able to show that the purchase money would pay off the whole debt, etc. If you will look carefully into the orders of the court you will find that you want the Trustees to do precisely what Mr. Vose got the Court to prohibit them from doing. The lien upon the lands of which you speak was not created by the decree of the Court, but by the Act of the Legislature of January 6, 1855, and the decree of the Court was to enforce the lien already created by the Statute. To assure a proper application of the Fund to the discharge of all claims made a lien on the lands, the Board of Trustees was by the Internal Improvement Act vested

with power to fix the price and sell the lands and pay the liabilities. The suit by Mr. Vose and others was instituted to compel the Trustees to discharge this duty. This the Court ordered, and the power of the Trustees to fix the price and sell the lands has never been interfered with by the Court, but, on the contrary, they have been directed to continue in the discharge of that duty. But the Court *did* take from the Trustees the right to decide upon any claim against the fund, either as to validity or amount. The Trustees simply sell the land and pay the money into Court. The Court distributes the Fund. You see therefore that we can not take upon ourselves to adjust any of the claims against the Internal Improvement Fund. We are simply trying to raise the money to enable the Court to have all just claims discharged. But I enclose herewith a certificate of A. Doggett, Special Master, showing the total amount of coupons now filed to be \$687,447.83, not including interest on those filed since December 1876. The whole amount may be set down in round numbers at \$700,000. This, of course, does not include the claim of Mr. Vose for costs and fees. Whatever may be allowed him by the Court under that head, and ordered to be paid from the Fund, must be first settled.

But I have written these things rather to recall you to a full understanding of the powers and duties of the Trustees than to enable you to remove the misconceptions of other parties. The questions need not be material in your negotiations. The Trustees do not care to touch a dollar of the purchase money until the Court has made its orders, and not then unless a surplus is left after paying all legal claims. You have full power to make a contract for sale with any purchaser who will deposit the purchase money (less your commissions) in any responsible Banking House in New York *subject to the orders of the Circuit Court of the United States for the 5th Judicial Circuit in the suit of Francis Vose et al vs. The Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund et al.* In fact, the Trustees would prefer that you should make a contract of that kind. We would thereby be relieved from the responsibility of handling the money—the creditors could have their claims paid as soon as adjusted—and the purchaser would feel secure about his title. But

in this matter exercise your own judgment. Your powers are general and full. You can best decide upon the details.

Yours very respectfully,

HUGH A. CORLEY,

Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

On motion, the foregoing letter was unanimously approved by the Board.

The Governor laid before the Board a communication from Sydney I. Wayles, Esq., of Washington, asking Commissions to represent the State before the different departments of the government in Washington to ascertain what is due to the State from the United States, and also authority to collect the amount due to the Pensacola and Georgia Railroad Company for transporting the mails in the years 1866 & 1867.

The Attorney General was requested to reply to Mr. Wayles with reference to the claim of the Pensacola and Georgia Railroad Company; and His Excellency, the Governor, was recommended to send commissions to Mr. Wayles to represent the State before the War and Land Departments; and the Secretary was instructed to forward such commissions with a letter explaining the wishes and opinions of the Trustees concerning the execution of said commissions.

The Attorney General laid before the Board a communication from Brigadier General S. V. Benet, Chief of Ordnance, with respect to the Chattahoochee Arsenal, as follows, to-wit:

Ordnance Office, War Department,  
Washington, October 25, 1877.

The Attorney General of the State of Florida,  
Tallahassee, Florida.

Sir:

The Judge Advocate General of the Army, to whom has been referred your communications of August 28 and Sept. 15, has expressed to the Secretary of War an opinion that the State authorities of Florida having been in actual occupation of the lands and buildings of the Apalachicola (or Chattahoochee) Arsenal at the date of the Act of Congress of Dec. 15, 1870, donating them to the State for Educational purposes, the United States

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could not thereafter sell the same as their own property. He also holds, upon the strength of 11th Vol. opinions of the Attorney General, p. 49, that no formal deeds are necessary to be given to the State of Florida under the said Act.

The Secretary of War has thereupon decided "that no action seems to be necessary in this case but to take a receipt for the property which has been lawfully turned over."

The "Lands" of the Apalachicola Arsenal were reserved by the President of the United States from the public domain under dates of November 3, 1832, and October 30, 1833, and will be found fully described in the records of the "Land District of the West Territory of Florida" for those years.

The "buildings" located on those lands on December 15, 1870, necessarily go with the lands into the ownership of the State.

The "appurtenances" of the lands are embraced in a deed of J. W. King, Attorney for Daniel Matchett, dated February 17, 1834, and recorded in Book B. p. 37, in the Clerk's Office of Gadsden County Court.

In pursuance of the decision of the Secretary of War, I have therefore to request that the proper authorities constituting the Board of Internal Improvement of the State of Florida, will file in this office a suitable acknowledgment of receipt of the foregoing property which has been turned over to them.

Respectfully, Your obedient servant,

(Signed) S. V. BENET, Brigadier General.  
Chief of Ordnance.

On motion, the Attorney General was requested to prepare an acknowledgment of receipt of the property mentioned for the signature of the Trustees, and also to obtain a certified copy of the deed of J. W. King, Attorney for Daniel Matchett, referred to in the foregoing communication.

The Secretary laid before the Board a letter from Samuel Pasco, Esq., inquiring whether the suit with regard to the cedar cut by Mr. Merrill and seized by the Sheriff of Wakulla County can be settled out of court upon payment of Mr. Merrill of stumpage thereon; and also a letter from Mr. Pasco to John A. Henderson, Esq.,

Attorney for the Trustees in said case, making similar inquiries, which letter had been referred by Mr. Henderson to the Trustees for instructions.

The Board decided that they would not settle the case on the terms proposed; and the Secretary was instructed to advise Messrs. Pasco and Henderson of such decision.

The following bills were presented, approved and ordered to be paid:

C. A. Bryan, Clerk of Leon Circuit Court, for copy of bill in case of W. P. Rembert vs. the Trustees—\$18.60.

W. G. Stewart, Postmaster at Tallahassee, for Postage and Box rent for Salesman's office—\$21.40.

Alonzo Fowle, Publisher of Florida Immigrant, for subscription for September and October, and postage—\$145.00.

A letter was received from H. P. Jackson, Sheriff of Levy County, respecting \$60 retained by him from moneys received for stumpage on account of expenses, which was not allowed by the Board, and requesting that all or a part of said expenses be allowed, or that time be given him to send up the money; which letter was postponed until another meeting of the Board.

The bill of George R. Frisbee, County Surveyor of Clay County, for surveying land supposed to be trespassed upon at the request of the Sheriff, amounting to \$5.00 was presented, approved and ordered to be paid.

An application was received from E. M. Lee, of Hamilton County, for the cancellation of the entry made by him January 8, 1876, of the South East quarter of the North West quarter of Section 29, Township 1, South, Range 15 East, which land was not the property of the Internal Improvement Fund, which application was accompanied with a deed relinquishing to the Trustees his title to the land—Whereupon, *it was ordered* that said entry be cancelled, and that the Treasurer refund to said E. M. Lee the sum of forty dollars, the amount paid by said Lee as the purchase money for said land.

An application was received from William H. Sharp for the correction or cancellation of Entry No. 7236 made by him on the 14th day of December, 1875. It appears that said Sharp desired to enter the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 3, Township 20, South, Range 17, East, which land was then Internal Improvement Land priced at \$1.50 per

acre—that he received a deed for the corresponding tract in Township 20, South, Range 13, East, there being no such township in the State—that this supposed tract was sold to him at \$1.00 per acre, amounting to \$37.20—that the land intended to be entered by said Sharp was subsequently entered and paid for by Cyprian T. Jenkins—And the said Sharp having returned the deed erroneously executed to him, *it was ordered*, that said entry be canceled, and the purchase money refunded.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, November 7, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Application was received from Walter C. Maloney, Jr., of Key West, on behalf of Edward Bell asking that said Bell be allowed a special preemption upon the E $\frac{1}{2}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  and Lot No. 2 of Section 9, Lot No. 4 of Section 10, and Lots Nos. 1 & 2 of Section 15, in Township 60, South, of Range 40, East containing 219.47 acres, notwithstanding he has not settled upon the land, and notwithstanding said Lots contain more than one hundred and sixty acres, he alleging that he has settled upon his own land in Section 16 adjoining said Lots; that all of said Lots are necessary for a full enjoyment of the privileges properly belonging to his property in Section 16; and that the other person has settled or improved the Lots applied for.

*Ordered.* That the Salesman allow a preemption on said lands to Mr. Bell upon his making an affidavit that the lands applied for do not embrace the residence, cultivated lands or improvements of any other person.

The proposition of Col. Theodore C. Cone to be appointed agent of the State before the Land Department in Washington was taken up for consideration.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary notify Col. Cone that the Trustees decline to make the appointment.

A letter was received from H. F. Hammon to whom the Board had agreed to sell from 3,000 to 5,000 acres of land in Township 42, South, Range 42, East, and Townships 41 and 42, South Range 43, East at a reduced price for the purpose of drainage, asking that the time be extended until November, 1878.

*Ordered*, That the extension asked for be granted.

A petition was received from a large number of citizens residing near Lake Apopka asking that the swamp and overflowed lands lying north of said lake be granted to them as a corporation on condition that they drain said lands and dig a navigable canal from Lake Apopka to Lake Dora, which was read and the consideration thereof postponed for the present.

The following letter from William C. Brown, of Tampa addressed to Mr. Corley was laid before the Board.

Tampa, Florida, Oct. 26th, 1877.

Hon. H. A. Corley,  
Com'r Lands, etc.,  
Tallahassee, Florida.

Dear Sir:

I have another proposition to make to you or to the Board. It is to this effect: That if you will furnish me with maps showing the State lands, I will attend to the business of entering lands without any charge to the State or Board, and only charge the parties here (1) one cent per acre for making the entries in addition to the money order fee and 3 cents postage on each entry, and will give a bond for the safe keeping and return of the maps. This would be an accommodation to the people here, and they would be willing to pay me the fees above stated.

Respectfully.

WM. C. BROWN.

*Ordered*, That the proposition of Mr. Brown be accepted provided the Salesman can conveniently furnish the plats.

A letter was received from M. C. Pickett of Apalachicola, asking that a survey be made of certain unsurveyed swamp lands lying near Lake Wimico, which was read and the consideration thereof postponed.

The following bills were presented, approved and ordered paid.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner, etc., for traveling expenses to New York, Washington and back at the request of the Board \$180.03.

Governor George F. Drew, for traveling expenses to New York, Washington and back at the request of the Board \$180.00.

Hugh A. Corley, Salesman, for back numbers of Copp's Land owner and for telegraphing \$6.10.

M. A. Williams, for commissions on sales of lands made by him at Jacksonville in September and October \$33.74.

George P. Raney for telegraphing \$1.35.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, November 20, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

A notice was received from the Register and Receiver of the United States Land Office at Gainesville that complaint had been entered at that office by Charles Moore against the State of Florida, alleging that Lot No. 4 of Section 10, in Township 43, South, of Range 43, East, in Dade County, Florida, is not swamp nor overflowed land, with a view to the cancellation of the claim of the



said State to the above described tract of land, and summoning the State to appear at the office of Charles H. Newman, Notary Public, at Pettusville, Volusia County on the 15th of January, 1878 at 10 o'clock, A. M., to respond and furnish testimony concerning the true character of said land.

Which was referred to the Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

Several letters were read from Samuel A. Swann, respecting his progress in the proposed sale of lands in Europe.

A letter from D. T. McIntyre respecting the difficulty in the way of granting lands to aid the construction of the St. Johns, Lake Eustis and Gulf Railroad Company, and inquiring into the facts and points of law presented in the Vose suit, was read and referred to the Attorney General.

A bill of Philip Walter, Clerk of the United States Court, for certified copy of bill filed against the Trustees and others by R. H. Johnson, amounting to \$21.00 was presented, approved and ordered to be paid.

Dr. H. C. Howard, on behalf of the Gainesville, Ocala and Charlotte Harbor Railroad Company, appeared before the Board and made a proposition that the Trustees sell to said Company alternate sections of State lands for six miles on each side of said road and branches at five cents per acre, such contract not to go into effect until the claims of Vose and others against the Internal Improvement Fund are settled, or the Trustees relieved therefrom by an order of Court.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

*Resolved*, That whenever the Gainesville, Ocala and Charlotte Harbor Railroad Company shall file a plat of their route to Tampa and Charlotte Harbor, the lands of the Internal Improvement Fund lying within six miles on each side of the route, and embraced in the odd numbered sections, will be reserved from sale for six months, and if at the end of that period, said Company shall have constructed twenty miles of said road, and made proof thereof to this Board, said lands shall be reserved until the next meeting of the Legislature for the action of that body.

Mr. Rixford, President, and Mr. Farrell, Engineer, of the Santa Fe Canal Company, appeared before the Board and explained the objects, plans and purposes of the work now being prosecuted by that Company, and inquired what aid in public lands, or what encouragement otherwise the Trustees could extend to the Company.

Without taking action thereon, the Board adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW.

President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, November 21, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The petition on behalf of the Santa Fe Canal was taken up for consideration. The Trustees unanimously expressed themselves in favor of the enterprise as one eminently calculated to promote the settlement and advance the interest of a portion of the State now inconveniently situated with respect to transportation, and one which should receive encouragement; but, inasmuch as the lands and proceeds of the Internal Improvement Fund cannot be appropriated in aid thereof, the Board could only endorse the scheme and recommend it to favorable consideration.

*Ordered.* That the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration communicate to Mr. Rixford, the President of the Company, the action of this Board.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

*Be it resolved by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida,* That His Excellency, the Governor, be requested to urge upon our Senators and Representatives in Congress to use their efforts to procure from

the Congress of the United States a renewal of the grants of land made to Florida by the Act of May 17, 1856, so far as the same have not been already conveyed under the provisions of said act; and to have the grant in aid of the construction of a road from Amelia Island to Tampa bay extended so as to include a road to Charlotte Harbor.

The following bills were presented, allowed, and ordered paid:

|                                                  |         |
|--------------------------------------------------|---------|
| John McDougall—Stationery for Salesman's office. | \$29.10 |
| W. G. Stewart, postage stamps .....              | 3.00    |
| Alonzo Fowle, binding book of receipts.....      | 3.00    |
| Hugh A. Corley, traveling expenses to Wakulla    |         |

|                                             |      |
|---------------------------------------------|------|
| Court attending case of timber seizure..... | 8.00 |
|---------------------------------------------|------|

Entry No. 8293 of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 10, Township 1, N, Range 8, East, 40 acres, made by J. J. Rutherford, October 4, 1877, was cancelled, said land not belonging to the Internal Improvement Fund, and the said Rutherford having returned his certificate of purchase, and the Treasurer was instructed to refund the purchase money (forty dollars).

John F. Hall having on the 5th January, 1876, entered the E $\frac{1}{2}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 33, Township 22, South, Range 21, East, and received deed therefor; and having applied to change said entry to the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  and NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of same section; and having made the affidavit required by the regulations of the Board and a deed reconveying the land originally entered to the Trustees, *It is ordered*, That the change of entry be made.

The Secretary laid before the Board the report of E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, dated Nov. 9. Among other things he reported trespasses committed as follows: By Capt. George W. Moody, 1,625,000 feet; by Henry A. Wyse 50M feet; by George F. Nutter 240,000 feet, with lists designating places and dates.

*Ordered*, That the report of E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, be referred to the Attorney General for advice with regard to legal proceedings against the trespassers.

A letter was read written by W. H. Milton, State Attorney for the First Circuit, to the Comptroller, asking approval of an agreement to arbitrate a matter of controversy between the Sheriff of Walton County, representing the State, and Fountain J. White, with regard to

certain timber alleged to have been cut on State land by said White, the matters to be submitted to arbitration being whether the timber was cut upon State land, and if so, how much and the value.

The following resolution was adopted:

*Resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund*, That the agreement for arbitration in a suit pending in the Circuit Court of Walton County in which James H. Rice, the Sheriff of said County and *ex officio* Timber Agent, is complainant on behalf of the State of Florida, and Fountain J. White, is defendant, in which the matters submitted are whether the timber involved in said suit was cut upon State land, and if so, the quantity and value thereof; which said agreement has been submitted for approval by W. H. Milton, State Attorney, be and the same is approved by this Board so far as the same may relate to the lands belonging to the Internal Improvement Fund.

On motion, the Commissioner of Lands & Immigration, was authorized to employ an assistant to prepare plats of the lands in West Florida for the use of the Timber Agent.

The letter of M. C. Pickett was taken up for consideration and it was

*Ordered*, That the Commissioner of Lands & Immigration be authorized to contract with a competent surveyor for the survey of Township 8, South, Range 9, West.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,

President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, December 7th, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

The Attorney General was elected Secretary pro tem.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Governor submitted to the Board letters and papers received by him from John T. Drew, making a proposition to surrender to the Board all coupons outstanding guaranteed by the Internal Improvement Fund for four million acres of land, to be conveyed on the surrender of the coupons to be made within four months. After consideration of the proposition it was ordered that the same be laid over for further consideration at an early meeting of the Board, when Mr. Corley should be present.

A letter from H. C. Howard, President of the G. O. & C. H. R. R. Company, November 26, 1877, to the Governor, asking the transfer to the company of alternate sections of U. S. lands in case they should be granted to the Trustees by Congress, and a telegram from R. G. Ingersoll, from Washington, D. C., dated the 6th inst. to Hon. Hugh A. Corley, asking if the assurance of the Trustees asked by Mr. Howard could be expected, was laid before the Board and after due consideration the Attorney General was directed to send and did send the following telegram to Mr. Ingersoll:

Tallahassee, Fla., Dec. 7, 1877.

To R. G. Ingersoll,  
Washington, D. C.

Trustees can not give the assurance. Will mail copy of resolution passed on the subject by Board, when Howard was here.

HUGH A. CORLEY.

The Attorney General submitted copy of letter written by him to D. T. McIntyre, Mattoon, Illinois, under resolution of the Board of November 20, 1877, which was ordered to be placed among the files of the Board.

A letter from R. W. Reuter, President of the J. St. A. & I. R. R. & N. Co., submitting proposition and form of contract for the sale of alternate section of lands lying east of the St. Johns river and other lands to said company at one cent per acre, and proposing that the Trustees apply to the U. S. Circuit Court, at Jacksonville, to rescind so much of the order now in force against the Board of Trustees as will enable the Board to accept such proposition, was received and after due consideration it was unanimously Resolved, that the proposition be rejected, and that the Secretary inform Mr. Reuter.

The matter of the revocation of the appointment of



Samuel A. Swann as agent to sell lands, made April 27th 1877, was considered at some length, and the Attorney General was directed to file the following letter prepared by him :

Tallahassee, Fla., December 7th, 1877.

Samuel A. Swann, Esq.,  
No. 27 New Cavendish Street,  
London, England.

Dear Sir :

I am instructed by the Board of Trustees to say that it is with great reluctance that they become impressed with the belief, that the chances of your making a successful sale of the Internal Improvement lands, under your agency as constituted by the resolution of the Board, passed April 27th, A. D. 1877, are very unpromising. The Board feel that unless you have pending a negotiation for a sale of land, or land warrants, which promises an early and pretty certainly successful issue, it is better that you should not keep either on the market after the first proximo.

The Board write this, because they feel that they can hardly hope for any better success at any reasonably early day, than you have had since your arrival in England last summer. They recognize with a sense of sincere and grateful approval your efforts to effect the purpose of your mission and particularly as they fully believe that you would have succeeded, but for the interference of Mr. Vose and others.

You will please telegraph the Board at its expense between the 25th inst. and 1st proximo, whether or not a revocation of your agency, on the first proximo, will defeat any negotiations promising the success indicated above.

The Board do not wish to do you any injustice, but they cannot now see from your letters, or the former results, of your undertakng, any hope for any even comparatively early success; and they believe that there are still parties working secretly against the success of the sale, with the hope of benefiting schemes they have, involving lands of the fund.

The Board think that you, in all probability, feel that the chances of success are, at least, quite remote.

Very respectfully,  
Your ob'd't serv't,

GEO. P. RANEY,  
Attorney General.

A communication from Thomas H. Wagstaff to the Governor enclosing letter from Baron de Wagstaff, and submitting proposition to issue land floats to the West Florida & Mobile Rail Road Company was received and after being considered final action thereon was postponed to some future day.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

GEO. P. RANEY,  
Sec. pro tem.

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Tallahassee, Florida, December 8th, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.

The Attorney General acting as Secretary pro tem.

The minutes of the last meeting were read & approved.

The letter of the Attorney General to R. G. Ingersoll transmitting copy of resolution of November 21st, 1877, requesting the Governor to urge upon our Senators and Representatives in Congress to use their efforts to procure from Congress a renewal of the grants of land made to Florida by the act of May 17th, 1856, &c., was read and approved.

The Attorney General was directed to request Henry R. Jackson, Charles H. Simonton, Esqrs., to meet the Board on Thursday next in reference to the vacation of

the receivership in the Vose case. And the Governor requested to telegraph F. Vose to meet the Board at the same time.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

GEO. P. RANEY,  
Sec. pro tem.

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Tallahassee, Florida, December 17th, 1877.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

The Attorney General acting as Secretary pro tem.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

A letter from Charles H. Simonton to the Attorney General bearing date 12th inst. in reply to one of the 7th inst. from the Attorney General expressing the desire of the Board for a vacation of the orders in the Vose case in so far as they appoint a receiver, said letter from Simonton expressing his entire accord in the matter, was read.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted: Resolved, That the Attorney General is directed to take without delay such legal proceedings in the name and on behalf of this Board as may be necessary to secure a vacation of all orders in the case of Francis Vose vs. The Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, pending in U. S. Circuit Court, Northern District of Florida appointing Aristides Doggett Receiver of said fund or the proceeds or net proceeds of sales of lands belonging to said fund, or any properties of said fund.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That it is the sense of this Board that the claims made by Francis Vose for compensation and reimbursement and pay for services expenses and attorneys fees made incurred or paid or contracted to be paid by him in the case of Francis Vose vs. Trustees of Internal

Improvement Fund is not a legal claim and should not be paid, but should be resisted by the Attorneys of this Board representing us as to the same with all legal and proper defenses.

A letter of 8th inst. from S. C. Andrews of Portland, Maine, to the Governor requesting information as to the terms upon which lands could be purchased was read and the Governor requested to acknowledge the same and the Commissioner of Lands and immigration to furnish Mr. Andrews with the desired information.

Letters from Thomas H. Wagstaff, President of West Florida R. R. Company enclosing copy of contract for purchase of Internal Improvement Lands and the construction of a railroad through West Florida, entered into between this Board and said Company Feby. 11. 1876; and letter of Nov. 4th from Baron W. de Wagstaff were considered with a statement from Gen. W. D. Barnes; and the Governor requested to ask the said President of said Company and Gen. Barnes to meet on the 10th prox. to consult about the subject matter of said papers.

The proposition of John T. Drew mentioned in the minutes of the 7th inst. and a similar proposition from Stanley Brown & Clarke Attorneys were considered and the Board declined to accept either proposition and directed the Attorney General to communicate their decision to the parties named.

A communication of 11th inst. from J. A. Williamson Commissioner of the General Land Office at Washington asking a relinquishment of the E $\frac{1}{2}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 35, T. 35, S., R. 40 E., patented under the Act of September 28, 1850 to the State and representing that the same was entered by O. B. Hart April 17, 1843, under the armed occupation act was referred to the Commissioner of Lands & Immigration for investigation.

A communication from R. W. Reuter of Dec. 9th, 1877, proposing to purchase lands of Internal Improvement Fund east of St. John's river, &c, at 5 cts. per acre was considered and the proposition refused.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

GEO. P. RANEY, Atty. Genl.  
Sec. pro tem.

Tallahassee, Fla., December 20, 1877.

Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Geo. P. Raney, Attorney General.

On motion of the Attorney General Columbus Drew Comptroller was appointed President pro tem.

On motion of the Attorney General Walter Gwynn was elected Secretary pro tem.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Secretary pro tem Walter Gwynn be and is directed to furnish both Attorneys of the Board copies of all records and papers of the Board, which they may call for in the matter of applying for a vacation of the orders appointing Aristides Doggett, Receiver in the case of Francis Vose vs. Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida in the U. S. Circuit Court Northern Dist. of Florida and to certify the same.

C. DREW, Comptroller,  
President pro tem.

Attest:

WALTER GWYNN,  
Secretary pro tem.

Tallahassee, Florida, January 11, 1878.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands  
and Immigration.

The minutes of the two last meetings were read and approved.

The Attorney General requested the instructions of the Board with regard to the time when the motion should be made for the discharge of the Receiver in the suit of Vose vs. The Trustees, in accordance with the resolution adopted on the 17th ult., and the Board advised that said motion be made at the adjourned session of the U. S. Court in Jacksonville in May next.



The Attorney General laid before the Board a letter from Gen. Henry R. Jackson, Attorney for E. C. Anderson and others, recommending that the State of Florida and the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund unite with other parties in applying to the Supreme Court of the United States for a consent decree in the case of the State and Trustees against E. C. Anderson and others vacating the order made in said cause enjoining the execution of a decree in the Circuit Court of the United States for the Northern District of Florida in favor of E. C. Anderson and others against the Jacksonville, Pensacola and Mobile Railroad Company and others.

The following resolution was adopted:

*Resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund*, That the Attorney and Solicitor of this Board be and he is hereby authorized to unite with the State of Florida and the holders of the State of Florida and the Pensacola and Georgia and Tallahassee Railroad Bonds, in a motion in the original suit in the Supreme Court of the United States in the case of the State of Florida and the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund against E. C. Anderson and others, to obtain from said Supreme Court a consent decree vacating so much of the orders and decrees in said cause as enjoins the execution of the decree in the Circuit Court of the United States for the Fifth Judicial Circuit, Northern District of Florida, in favor of said E. C. Anderson et al. against the Jacksonville, Pensacola and Mobile Railroad Company et al., and in such proceedings as will secure an immediate sale of the Pensacola and Georgia and Tallahassee Railroads under said decree in the said Circuit Court.

A letter was received from E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, reporting seizures of timber at Cedar Keys and requesting that the necessary aid be given him in protecting the interests of the State.

The following resolution was adopted.

*Resolved by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund*, That E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, be authorized under the instructions of the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration, to employ an Attorney to aid him in the prosecution of trespassers and condemnation of timber

cut upon State lands, provided he shall deem it necessary.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

*Resolved*, That the salary of the Timber Agent be increased to one hundred and twenty five dollars per month from the 1st instant.

A letter was received from Henry A. Wyse in respect to timber cut by him and seized by the Sheriff; which was referred to the Commissioner of Land and Immigration.

The Commissioner laid before the Board a number of letters from Samuel A. Swann in reference to the attempted sale of 3,000,000 acres of land; which were read and placed on file.

The following bills were presented, approved and ordered paid:

|                                                                      |         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| C. E. Dyke, for printing .....                                       | \$81.75 |
| W. G. Stewart, P. M. postage, &c., Salesman's office                 | 17.40   |
| M. A. Williams, Commissions on sales in November<br>& December ..... | 23.05   |
| George P. Raney, Traveling Expenses, cost of records, &c.....        | 100.15  |
| L. D. Ball, Surveyor General, Plat of Chattahoochee<br>Reserve ..... | 7.00    |

The Salesman laid before the Board a letter from William S. Curry of Manatee County, alleging that he had made an error in Entry No. 8374 of Lot No. 2, Section 30, Township 40, South, Range 23, East, made December 15, 1877, for which no deed has been executed, the land he desired to enter being the  $W\frac{1}{2}$  of  $NE\frac{1}{4}$  of said Section.

*Ordered*, That said entry be cancelled, and the purchase money (\$58.50) be refunded.

The Secretary laid before the Board a letter from George Helvenston in reference to trespasses upon the timber lands in Township 16, South, Range 16, East, and suggesting the sale of timber by stumpage.

The Secretary was instructed to notify Mr. Helvenston that the Board decline to change their present regulations respecting timber upon the public lands.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, January 12, 1878.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

Thomas H. Wagstaff, Esq., President of the West Florida and Mobile Railroad Company, with whom the Trustees had made an agreement June 1, 1875, for the sale of lands in West Florida in aid of the construction of said road from the Apalachicola River westward, which contract had expired by limitation, presented to the Board a proposition for the renewal of said contract or agreement with the following modifications:

1—That the time allowed for making and filing the surveys of said road shall be extended six months from the date of the issue of the floats herein granted.

2—That the period for completing the said road shall be extended for five years from the date thereof.

3—That the said Company shall commence the building of the said road from the west side of the Apalachicola river to run towards Marianna.

4—That the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida shall make and deposit with such Bank in the City of New York as may be agreed on by the parties hereto, three hundred and forty floats of one hundred acres each upon the public lands of West Florida in aid of the first ten miles of road to be constructed, the same to be paid for at the rate of thirty cents per acre, as fast as they shall be withdrawn by the said Company, or their duly authorized agent—the receipts of money for said floats to be credited to the amount to be paid by said Company for the lands granted by their original contract with the Board.

5—That the United States lands granted to the State of Florida by the Act of Congress dated May 17, 1856, and now in its legal possession, shall be conveyed to the said Company under the terms and provisions of the said act, in further aid of their enterprise, as fast as the said road is completed.

After some time spent in considering and discussing

the merits of said proposition, the following resolution was adopted:

*Be it Resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida, That this Board refuses to renew the agreement entered into June 1st, 1875, with the West Florida and Mobile Railroad Company, with any modification of said agreement or contract by which any of the lands belonging to the Fund shall be conveyed to said Company in advance of any work upon said railroad, or until ten miles of said road shall have been constructed.*

Mr. Wagstaff, the President of the West Florida and Mobile Railroad Company having been notified of the action of the Board, made inquiry whether the Trustees would consent to a renewal and extension of the contract altered so as to embrace only the quantity of lands belonging to the Fund in West Florida, amounting to about 1,200,000 acres.

The Trustees proceeded to consider the terms of the original contract, and various amendments and modifications thereof were decided to be desirable before the agreement could be renewed, and a memorandum thereof was furnished to Governor Drew, who was requested to confer with Mr. Wagstaff and ascertain if the Company would consent thereto; and further action was postponed until after such conference.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, January 16, 1878.

The Board met in the room of the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands  
and Immigration.

Mr. E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, appeared before the Board and made a verbal statement of his proceedings in the seizure of timber at Cedar Keys, and asked for and received verbal instructions with reference to further action thereon.

Maj. Henry A. Wyse appeared before the Board in the matter of the seizure of certain spar timber cut by him and carried to Cedar Keys—Maj. Wyse having failed to enter the land which he was authorized to enter under the order of the Board of the 16th July last, but having removed the timber cut thereon as he was authorized to do under that order, the spar timber in question was seized by the Timber Agent to make good the loss to the Fund on account of the failure of Maj. Wyse to comply with the terms of the order. Mr. Wyse was informed that the timber would not be released until he had paid for the land on which the trespass was committed last year.

Mr. E. J. Berry presented a bill for the line of chain-bearers and for traveling expenses from Cedar Keys to Tallahassee, upon the order of the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration, amounting to \$153.50, which was approved and ordered paid.

A communication was received from Thomas H. Wagstaff, President of the West Florida and Mobile Railroad Company, suggesting certain modifications of the agreement with the Trustees of June 1, 1875, and requesting that said agreement so modified be renewed.

On motion the proposition was rejected.

A communication was received from John H. Fry, dated at New York, proposing to purchase 3,000,000 acres of land on the terms named in the instructions to Mr. Swann, and making various suggestions respecting Canal enterprises in Florida, and requesting that no action be taken by the Board respecting such sale or enterprises in favor of other parties until further communication from him.

Ordered, That Mr. Fry be notified that no action will be taken in regard to said sale of lands until a report is received from Mr. Swann.



The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, January 17, 1878.

The Board met in the Treasurer's office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands  
& Immigration.

The Secretary laid before the Board a communication from Mr. Francis Vose in which he requests some action by the Board of Trustees without delay upon the matter of his claim for repayment of advances incurred in his suit against the Trustees. This request was occasioned by the Attorneys of the Trustees availing themselves of the Rules of Court for time in which to file exceptions to the report of the Special Master allowing Mr. Vose about \$97,000 for expenses, etc. Mr. Vose further referred to the want of prompt action by the Trustees to get the possession of the moneys turned over to the State Treasurer by order of the Supreme Court of the United States in the case of the State of Florida et al. vs. E. C. Anderson et al., and also to negligence in the protection of the lands from trespass. Mr. Vose also enclosed copy of a letter written by him to Mr. Allen, the Receiver of the J. P. and M. Railroad, in which he protested against the allowance of free passes to any except employees of the road and suggested a reduction of passenger rates, and asks to be advised whether or not the Trustees approve of said letter.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary inform Mr. Vose that the Board sees no reason to disapprove of the action of their Attorneys upon the subject matter of his claim for expenses, but that, on the contrary, their action therein is fully approved; and that the Trustees have nothing to

do with the matter of the letter from him to Mr. Allen.  
The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, January 26, 1878.

The Board met in the Executive office.

Present: Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands  
and Immigration.

The minutes of the meetings of the 11th, 12th and 16th instant were read and approved, and the minutes of the meeting of the 17th inst. were read corrected and approved.

Mr. Columbus Drew was chosen President *pro tem*.

The following accounts were presented approved and ordered paid:

Miss Susan M. Archer, for mounting plats.....\$93.87

Hugh A. Corley, Salesman, Stationery, &c..... 46.59

W. G. Stewart, P. M., Box rent and postage..... 2.33

H. S. Duval for 236 plats for use of timber Agent..118.00

George P. Raney for professional services in the  
Supreme Court in the case of The Trustees vs.

The St. Johns Railway Company ..... 50.00

Application was received from Allen Goulsby for the cancellation of Entry No. 6450, made by him on the 26th day of May, 1873, of the South East quarter of the South West quarter of Section 12, in Township 2, North of Range 6, East, and for the refunding of \$29.88 the purchase money paid therefor, on the ground of a mistake in the original entry; and the said application being accompanied with the affidavit in such cases required, and with the original deed to him from the Trustees and a deed from him reconveying the land to the Trustees, the same having been duly recorded; it was

*Ordered*, That said entry be cancelled and the purchase money refunded.

Application was received from Howell T. Sykes for the cancellation of Entry No. 8024, made by him on the 27th day of April, 1877, of the North West quarter of the North East quarter of Section 17 in Township 20, South, of Range 17, East, and for the refunding of \$40 the purchase money paid therefor, on the ground that said tract had previously been sold and conveyed to him; and the deed issued upon the last entry having been returned, it was

*Ordered*, That said entry be cancelled and the purchase money refunded.

A report was received from Samuel A. Swann, Special Agent for the sale of lands, dated at New York, January 22nd, 1878, which was placed on file.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

*Be it Resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida*, That the resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund on the sixth day of February, 1869, appointing William H. Hunt an Agent of the Board of Trustees to have in charge certain lands on and near the South-east coast of Florida in Ranges Forty, Forty-one and Forty-two, East, and empowering him to contract for the sale of said lands, and to locate settlers thereon, and to make regulations for the prevention of waste and destruction, be and the same is hereby rescinded; and all authority given, or sought to be given, to said Hunt over any of the lands belonging to, or claimed for, the Internal Improvement Fund is hereby revoked.

On motion, the Secretary was instructed to notify the officers of Dade County of the adoption of said resolution, and furnish a copy thereof to some newspaper published in the City of Key West for publication.

The Attorney General informed the Board that notice had been given him that on Monday next a motion would be made in the United States Circuit Court at Jacksonville in the case of Francis Vose et al. vs. The Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund et al. to place the lands of the Internal Improvement Fund in the hands of Sherman Conant for sale.

The Board then adjourned.

C. DREW,  
President *pro tem*.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, February 9, 1878.

The Board met in the Executive office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Commissioner of Lands and Immigration to whom had been referred the letters from the General Land Office asking a relinquishment of the State's title to the E $\frac{1}{2}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 35, Township 35, South, Range 40, East, for the reason that said tract was entered by Ossian B. Hart under the Armed Occupation Act of Congress prior to the passage of the Swamp land Act, reported that said tract had never been sold by the State or Trustees; and the Governor was authorized and requested to reconvey said tract to the United States of America as requested by the Commissioner of the General Land Office. And a deed for said purpose having been prepared was duly executed by His Excellency, Gov. George F. Drew.

A deed having been prepared in compliance with the order of the Board of the 7th of February last, relinquishing to the United States the title of the State to Lot No. 2, Section 7, Township 12, South, Range 22, East, the same was executed by His Excellency, Governor George F. Drew.

An application was received from Williams H. Emmons of Hillsborough County, asking that entry No. 7629 made by him June 6, 1876, be changed so as to embrace the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 13, Township 32, South, Range 18, East, instead of Lot No. 7 of Section 12 in said Township; and that entry No. 8251 made by him August 25, 1877, be changed to as to embrace the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 13,

Township 32, South, Range 18, East, instead of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of said Section; and the application being accompanied with the sworn statement required in such cases and with the deeds from the Trustees to said Emmons, It was Ordered, That the changes of entry asked for be allowed when the said Emmons shall re-convey to the Trustees the lands conveyed to him and embraced in Entries Nos. 7269 and 8251 aforesaid.

The following bills were presented, allowed and ordered paid:

Alonzo Fowle, subscription to "Florida Immigrant" for February \$72.50.

H. S. Duval for 39 Township diagrams for Timber Agent, \$19.50.

W. T. Webster for copies of 2 Township plats for Salesman's Office, \$4.00.

Hugh A. Corley, Traveling Expenses to Jacksonville and Office Expenses. \$14.40.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, February 19th, 1878.

Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

Geo. P. Raney, Attorney General.

The Attorney General was appointed Secretary pro tem.

The minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

W. L. Williams as agent for the Muscogee Lumber Company, appeared before the Board and presented a written proposition in behalf of said Company to purchase certain swamp and overflowed land, lying in Sections 23, 24 and 26 and 13, in Township 3, Range 33, North and West and Sections 6, 7 and 18 in Township 3, Range 32, North and West, at twenty-five cents per acre, and also to purchase the swamp and overflowed lands in township 5, Range 34, North and West at the same price.



The proposition was considered and finally ordered postponed until the return of Hon. Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

The Attorney General presented letters of February 9th and 19th to W. G. M. Davis as to the terms upon which he would represent the Trustees in the matters of appeal to the Supreme Court of the State of Florida, by the J. P. & M. R. R. Co. et al., in the case of the State of Florida and the Trustees against the J. P. & M. R. R. Co. et al.; and the same were approved and ordered filed.

A letter from H. H. Stephens to the Board to purchase 655 9-100 acres in Township 43, South, Range 25, East, at 25 cents per acre, was considered by the Board and the proposition rejected; and the Secretary directed to notify him of the same.

A letter from S. I. Wailes, of Washington, D. C., of February 9th, to the Governor was read, the same proposing to undertake to prosecute all claims for the State against the general government, for 20 per cent. of all amounts collected and paid into the Treasury of the State; with the understanding that his appointment will not be revoked while cases, which he may have commenced prosecuting are pending before Congress or the Departments, was considered and final action postponed, and the Secretary was directed to acknowledge the receipt of the same and advise Mr. Wailes that the prosecution so far as it was considered impressed the Board favorably.

A letter to Mr. Corley from Samuel A. Swann of the 11th inst., written at New York City relating to matters of his agency to sell lands, was considered and ordered filed.

A letter from the Commissioner of the General Land Office in relation to the claim of Ziba King under the Homestead act, to  $W\frac{1}{2}$  of  $NW\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $SE\frac{1}{4}$  of  $NW\frac{1}{4}$  and  $NE\frac{1}{4}$  of  $SW\frac{1}{4}$  Section 18, Township 39, South, Range 24 East, was read and ordered to be filed.

A letter from George W. Moody of February 16th, 1878, in relation to trespasses by him upon lands of the Fund, was read and considered and the Secretary was directed to correspond with Mr. Moody and arrange for his appearance before the Board upon some particular

day, and to direct Mr. E. J. Berry, Trespass Agent, to be present on the same day prepared to give information as to the trespasses reported by him to have been committed by Mr. Moody.

Notice was received from the Register and Receiver of the U. S. Land Office at Gainesville of complaint having been entered at that office by William C. Platt, alleging that the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 3, and the E $\frac{1}{2}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  and NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 10, Township 39, South, Range 23, East in Manatee County, are not swamp and overflowed lands, with the view to the cancellation of the claim of the State to the same, and that a hearing would take place at Pine Level in said county, before Robert S. Griffiths, Clerk of the Circuit Court, on the 16th of March proximo, at 10 o'clock a. m. and ordered filed.

A letter of the 15th inst. from M. A. Williams proposing that his commissions for selling lands should be restored to 10 per cent., and that all entries of land lying in a specified district should be made at the Agency in Jacksonville and offering in consideration of this that he would make a personal examination with a regard to trespass upon the State domain and effectually stop it, charging only the cost of travel upon expeditions for such purpose, and such cost of necessary surveying as may be required; the Secretary was instructed to inform Mr. Williams that they would accept his proposition with the modifications, that there shall be no requirements that the lands of any particular District shall be entered at Jacksonville; and it shall be understood that his duties as to trespasses shall be confined to lands lying in Nassau County and the lands lying on the St. Johns and its tributaries.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
GEO. P. RANEY, Secretary pro tem.

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Tallahassee, Florida, March 8, 1878.

The Board met in the Executive office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

Mr. G. W. Moody appeared before the Board and made a statement in reference to timber cut by him upon State lands. He admitted the cutting of 60M feet in Section 6, T. 5 S. R. 15 E., and also about 900 sticks upon lands purchased by him from James Y. Jones in T. 6, S., R. 14 E., but which lands he subsequently learned were State lands. He also admitted cutting timber upon other sections in T. 5 S., R. 15 E., but claimed that he did so as the Agent of George F. Nutter, and evidence was furnished showing that said Nutter had made certain payments to the State Timber Agent on account of Stumpage. The timber Agent, E. J. Berry, had estimated the timber cut upon the "Jones lands" in T. 6 S., R. 14 E., at 855 M., which estimate Mr. Moody contended was double the correct quantity. Mr. Berry was called before the Board and stated that his estimates were made after a very careful examination and were correct.

The Board decided not to hold Mr. Moody responsible for the timber cut by him under instructions from Mr. Nutter and while in his employment, but to hold him responsible for that cut upon the other lands as reported by Mr. Berry, viz:

|                                                                      |              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| In Section 6, Township 5, South, Range 13,                           |              |
| East .....                                                           | 60,000 feet  |
| In S $\frac{1}{2}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 21, Township 6, South |              |
| Range 14, East .....                                                 | 50,000 feet  |
| In South $\frac{1}{2}$ Section 22, Township 6, South,                |              |
| Range 14, East.....                                                  | 250,000 feet |
| In SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 23, Township 6, South,                   |              |
| Range 14, East.....                                                  | 10,000 feet  |
| In W $\frac{1}{2}$ of W $\frac{1}{2}$ Section 26, Township 6, South, |              |
| Range 14, East .....                                                 | 10,000 feet  |
| In Section 27, Township 6, South, Range 14,                          |              |
| East .....                                                           | 400,000 feet |
| In E $\frac{1}{2}$ of E $\frac{1}{2}$ Section 28, Township 6, Range  |              |
| 14, East .....                                                       | 40,000 feet  |
| In Section 34, Township 6, South, Range 14,                          |              |
| East .....                                                           | 75,000 feet  |
| In Section 35, Township 6, South, Range 14,                          |              |
| East .....                                                           | 20,000 feet  |
| In NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 35, Township 4,      |              |
| South, Range 12, East.....                                           | 5,000 feet   |

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Amounting altogether to .....920,000 feet

The said Moody had also cut (according to Mr. Berry's report) 10,000 feet upon the West half of Section 36, T 6 S, R 14 E, land bought in by the State for taxes for which he is responsible to the Board of Education for the use of the School Fund.

*It was Ordered*, That Mr. George W. Moody be authorized to settle for the above trespasses by paying for the timber at the rate of fifty cents per thousand feet.

A letter from R. F. Taylor, Esq., respecting the proceedings in Court for timber trespasses was read and referred to the Attorney General for reply.

A letter was received from M. A. Williams applying on behalf of Mr. Smeltz, to purchase lands in the Oclawaha river swamp at 60 cents per acre, which was declined.

Several letters were received from M. A. Williams respecting his duties and those of the Trustees with regard to trespassing upon the public lands; which were read and referred to the Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

Mr. Raney presented an account for traveling expenses and court fees amounting to \$29.25, which was approved and ordered paid.

On motion, the Treasurer was instructed to pay to James M. Baker, Esq. three hundred dollars on account of professional services as Attorney of the Trustees.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, March 15, 1878.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

The minutes of the last two meetings were read and approved.

The following accounts were presented, approved, and ordered paid:

The "Key of the Gulf" for publishing resolutions

of the Board revoking the Agency of William H.

Hunt .....\$10.00

W. G. Stewart, P. M. at Tallahassee, stamps & Envelopes ..... 19.90

M. A. Williams, Commissions on sales January & February ..... 98.22

Notice was received from the U. S. Land Office at Gainesville that complaint had been entered by Charles Moore against the State, alleging that Lot No. 4 of Section 10 and Lots Nos. 1 & 2 of Section 15, Township 43, South, Range 43, East, are not swamp nor overflowed lands, and summoning the parties interested to appear at Titusville before Charles H. Newman, Notary Public on the 23rd April to respond and furnish testimony concerning the true character of the land described.

Which was read and referred to the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

Application was received from John C. Carter to have the purchase money refunded to him for the North half of Lot No. 1, Section 18, Township 10, South, Range 30, East, and a deed made to him for the South half of said Lot—the whole of said Lot having been sold and conveyed to him by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund June 23, 1875, while the North half had already been sold to Samuel Pringle. The deed of the Trustees to said Carter (No. 6997) was returned with said application.

Ordered, That the purchase money for the North half of said Lot, (34.90 acres) amounting to \$31.41 be refunded to John C. Carter, and that a deed be made conveying to him the South half of said Lot, upon a reconveyance of said Lot by said Carter to the Trustees.

The Attorney General laid before the Board two letters from Thomas H. Wagstaff, president of the West Florida and Mobile Railroad Company, inviting a proposition from the Board respecting the construction of their road; which were read, and the Attorney General was requested to reply thereto that the Board are not prepared to make any proposition upon the subject.

A letter was received from H. W. Hawes, Esq., of Louisville, Kentucky, with respect to prosecuting a claim against the United States by the Pensacola and Georgia Railroad Company for transportation; which was read,



and the Secretary was instructed to reply thereto, that the Trustees are not interested in said claim, and that the parties interested have taken steps for the collection thereof.

The application on behalf of the Muscogee Lumber Company for the purchase of certain lands at a reduced price, postponed by the Board on the 19th ult., was taken up for consideration, and the application was refused.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, April 13th, 1878.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands  
and Immigration.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Secretary laid before the Board a letter from S. I. Wailes, Esquire, Agent and Attorney of the State of Florida for the purpose of procuring an adjustment of the claims of the State for lands granted by the Act of Congress approved September 28, 1850, in reference to the amount to be paid him as compensation for his services.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

*Be it Resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida, That as compensation for services of Sidney I. Wailes, Esquire, Agent and Attorney of the State of Florida before the Department of the Interior at Washington in procuring an adjustment of the claims of the State for lands granted by Congress under the Act of September 28, 1850, the Board will pay to said S. I. Wailes twenty per cent. of all moneys paid*

over to the State on account of swamp lands purchased from the United States prior to the third day of March, 1857, under the Acts of Congress of March 2, 1855, and March 3, 1857, and also twenty per cent of all warrants or certificates issued to the State under said acts on account of lands located by warrants or scrip prior to said third day of March, 1857. And, upon the receipt of patents for any lands selected by the State, as swamp lands, prior to 1861, which have not yet been patented to the State for any reason, this Board will convey to the said S. I. Wailles eight per cent. thereof in consideration of his services in procuring said patents. And for procuring the approval and confirmation of the lands selected for the State as swamp lands, since 1861, the Board will pay such reasonable compensation as may hereafter be agreed upon.

The following accounts were presented, approved and ordered paid:

|                                                                      |         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| W. G. Stewart, P. M. at Tallahassee, Postage Salesman's office ..... | \$ 6.90 |
| M. A. Williams, Agent, Commissions on Sales in March .....           | 33.75   |

The Attorney General laid before the Board two letters from Thomas H. Wagstaff, President of the West Florida and Mobile Railroad Company, in reference to the renewal and modification of the contract for the construction of the railroad from the Apalachicola river to the western boundary of the State; which were read and referred back to the Attorney General for reply in accordance with the views of the Board, they being unwilling at this time to enter into any further agreement with regard to the construction of said road.

The Secretary laid before the Board a letter from George W. Moody, with regard to the timber cut by him on State lands in Township 6, South, Range 14, East, in which he claims that the estimate by Mr. Berry, the Timber Agent, of the quantity so cut was excessive, and that the actual number of logs cut by him on said land was only 1,146, containing about 538,400 feet. The letter was accompanied with the affidavit of William D. Wynn, Foreman of the Axemen employed by Mr. Moody, showing the number of logs cut in said township.

*Ordered*, That Mr. E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, be requested to make a re-examination of the lands trespassed upon, and report the quantity of timber cut and removed by Mr. Moody.

Mr. Corley laid before the Board a communication from Captain William H. Kendrick stating that he intended going to Europe next month to attend the Paris Exposition, and offering to act as Agent of the Trustees to negotiate a sale of lands.

The Secretary was instructed to reply to Capt. Kendrick that under existing circumstances the Board are not willing to appoint any agent for the sale of lands to parties in Europe.

A letter was received from William L. Williams, on behalf of the Muscogee Lumber Company, asking a reconsideration of the action of the Board refusing to sell the lands applied for by them at a reduced price.

The Board refused to reconsider their former action in the premises.

A letter was received from Dr. J. V. Harris, of Monroe County, asking a reduction of price for 320 acres of land which he wishes to purchase and plant with a choice variety of bananas introduced by himself and with coffee.

The Board declined to sell for less than the regular price.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, April 26, 1878.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands  
and Immigration.

Governor Drew laid before the Board a communica-

tion from George W. Julian asking the appointment as Agent of the State to procure the adjustment of land claims under the Swamp Land grant of Congress, which was accompanied with letters of recommendation by Hon. Thomas A. Hendricks and Hon. R. H. M. Davidson.

*Ordered,* That the Secretary reply to Mr. Julian and state to him that the State has already appointed an agent for the purpose.

Governor Drew also laid before the Board a communication from William Ogden Giles, of New York, requesting to be authorized to negotiate the sale of State lands; which was referred to the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration for reply.

Hugh A. Corley presented an account amounting to \$40.00 for traveling expenses to Titusville and back in the matter of the swamp land contest by Charles Moore, and for subscription to Copp's Land Owner, and binding:

Which account was approved and ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, May 11, 1878.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

Mr. Columbus Drew was chosen President pro tem.

The minutes of the two last meetings were read and approved.

On motion, the Treasurer was authorized and instructed to pay to George P. Raney three hundred dollars on account of professional services as Attorney of the Board of Trustees.

The following accounts were presented, approved and ordered paid:

|                                                                                                                                          |          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| M. A. Williams, Agent, commissions on sales in April .....                                                                               | \$146.55 |
| W. G. Stewart, P. M., postage for Salesman's office .....                                                                                | 26.40    |
| John A. Henderson, for services as Attorney in the case of the Trustees vs. 469 sticks of cedar seized by the Sheriff of Wakulla Co..... | 50.00    |

The Board then adjourned.

C. DREW,  
President pro tem.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, May 14, 1878.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The following accounts were presented, approved and ordered paid:

|                                               |         |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------|
| C. A. Bryan, Jr., for binding.....            | \$16.50 |
| Alonzo Fowle, for blank Township diagrams.... | 10.00   |

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.



Tallahassee, Florida, May 28, 1878.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands  
and Immigration.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Secretary laid before the Board the report of Mr. E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, upon a re-examination of the lands in Township 6, South, Range 14, East, trespassed upon by Mr. George W. Moody. Mr. Moody reported that he had carefully re-examined the cutting done by Mr. Moody during 1876, and finds that he had probably over-estimated the quantity of timber cut by Mr. Moody in the East half of Section 27 and South half of Section 22 to the extent of 150M feet in Section 27 and 50M feet in Section 22, making in the aggregate 200M feet; which would entitle Mr. Moody to a reduction of \$100 from the amount charged against him.

*Ordered*, That the amount of one hundred dollars be deducted from the amount claimed against Mr. G. W. Moody on account of cutting timber upon State land, and that the Secretary notify Mr. Moody thereof and request a prompt payment of the remainder.

The Secretary laid before the Board several letters from Mr. Samuel A. Swann, dated the 16th instant, and also his report of same date as Special Agent for the sale of lands, with sundry letters and documents accompanying said report and referred to therein. Mr. Swann reports that so far he had been unable to negotiate the sale of the 3,000,000 acres, and refers to several letters and propositions respecting further efforts in that respect, in which, however, he can see nothing pointing to a certain and satisfactory result. He suggests several plans for providing means to relieve the Fund from indebtedness:

*First*, To allow coupon holders to take lands for their debts.

*Secondly*, Those not willing to take lands in payment to be paid pro rata from cash sales.

*Thirdly*, To pay coupon holders in 40 acre land warrants.

*Fourth*, To issue land Warrants or Floats, deposit them with some Banking house in New York to be delivered to special agents at prices graduated according to the quantity purchased, the local price being fixed for lands at \$1.25 per acre.

The letters and report of Mr. Swann were placed on file, subject to be taken up for consideration at any time hereafter.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, May 29, 1878.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Governor and the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration laid before the Board notices that had been sent to them from the United States Land Office, at Gainesville, that complaint had been entered at that office by Richard P. Potter against the State of Florida alleging that the N $\frac{1}{2}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 7, Township 53, South, Range 42, East, is not swamp nor overflowed land, with a view to the cancellation of the claim of the State to said tract, and summoning the parties in interest to appear at Miami in Dade county, before T. W. Faulkner, County Judge on the 10th of July, 1878, at 10 o'clock A. M. to respond and furnish testimony concerning the true character of said land.

The Commissioner of Lands and Immigration was requested to attend at the time and place specified in said notice to represent the State in its claim to the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of said section.

Applications were received for the cancellation of the following entries for the reason that the lands embraced therein have not been approved to the State:

Entry No. 8179, by William B. Moody, made August 27, 1877, SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 20, Township 30, South, Range 20, East, 40 acres at one dollar per acre for which a certificate of purchase only was issued, which certificate has been returned.

Entry No. 8023, by Elizabeth A. Morrison, made April 26, 1877, SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 20, Township 30, South, Range 20, East, 40 acres at one dollar per acre, for which a certificate of purchase only was issued, which certificate has been returned.

Entry No. 7610, by Elizabeth A. Morrison, made May 25, 1876, NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 20, Township 30, South, Range 20, East, 40 acres at one dollar per acre, for which a deed was made, which deed has been returned.

*Ordered*, That entries Nos. 8179 and 8023 be canceled and the purchase money refunded to the parties making said entries; and that Entry No. 7610 be canceled and the purchase money refunded when the purchaser shall reconvey the land to the Trustees.

The following bills were presented, approved and ordered paid:

Davis S. Walker, Esquire, for expenses in attending the U. S. Court at Jacksonville as Attorney for the Trustees, \$39.25.

Hugh A. Corley, for expenses of three trips to Jacksonville, \$15.35.

George P. Raney, for expenses to Raleigh, N. C., and Washington, and in attending the U. S. Court at Jacksonville, and for telegrams, \$161.90.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, May 30th, 1878.

The Board met in the Secretary of State's Office.

Present: Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

Application was received from Thomas J. Howell for the change or cancellation of Entry No. 7641, made June 16, 1876.  $8\frac{1}{2}$  of NE  $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 25, Township 36. South, Range 18, East, 80 and 90 cents per acre, on account of a mistake in the entry; and the application being accompanied with the affidavit required in such cases, the deed from the Trustees, and a deed re-conveying the land to the Trustees, *it was ordered*, That said entry be canceled and the purchase money (seventy-two dollars) be refunded.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: C. DREW, President pro tem.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, May 31, 1878.

The Board met in the Attorney General's Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

The Secretary laid before the Board an order of the United States Circuit Court in the case of Francis Vose vs. the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, which was read and ordered to be spread upon the minutes, as follows:

Francis Vose

v.

The Trustees of the Internal Improvement  
Fund of Florida.

December Term.

It is Ordered that the Decrees heretofore made herein be so far modified as to permit and authorize the said de-

pendants to receive in payment for lands belonging to the Internal Improvement Fund which they may hereafter sell, one half of the coupons of the bonds issued under the provisions of the Internal Improvement Act, now held by any one of the parties plaintiff to the said cause, or their assignees, which have been adjudged to be a good and valid lien upon the lands of said fund: the amount so to be recived in each case to be evidenced by the separate certificate of A. Doggett, Esq., Master in Chancery, showing that such coupons have become part of the Decree in the said cause, as well as the entire amount held by such party.

It is further ordered that the said Master shall keep a record copy of all certificates which he may so issue in a book to be provided for that purpose.

The question as to whether the coupons of the Pensacola and Georgia Railroad Company are payable from the Internal Improvement Fund pending on motion for re-hearing in this Court, it is Ordered, that the holders of any such coupons shall be authorized to designate such lands belonging to said Fund as they may desire to take in payment of one half of their coupons verified under order of this Court, and the Trustees of the I. I. Fund shall reserve from sale for the benefit of such parties the lands so designated, until the question of the liability of the Fund for said coupons shall be finally adjudicated; or, the lands so designated may be sold by said Trustees upon the written order or consent of such coupon-holders, and the money received therefor shall be paid by the Trustees to the Receiver of this Court to be held as a special fund to be paid over to such coupon-holders if their claims shall be decided to be payable from the Fund; otherwise, to be placed in the general fund for distribution as other moneys received from sales of lands.

THOMAS SETTLE, Judge.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.



Tallahassee, Florida, June 15th, 1878.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

The following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, in the opinion of this Board it is not necessary to the interests of the Fund that the subscription to "The Florida Immigrant" published by Mr. Alonzo Fowle should be continued, Be it resolved that the subscription to the same made by this Board under the resolution passed April 21st, 1877, as amended May 11th, 1877, be and is discontinued from and after the month of July, 1878, and that Mr. Fowle be notified of such discontinuance.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.

GEO. P. RANEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, June 21st, 1878.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Geo. F. Drew, Governor.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Geo. P. Raney, Atty. Genl.

The account of James M. Baker for services in the Vose case for three hundred dollars was ordered paid; also the account of Chas. F. Hopkins for survey made in Putnam County, T. 13, R. 27, S. & E. for \$46.00 ordered paid.

The communication of Chas. F. Hopkins of 19th inst. as to trespasses in said County was considered and it was ordered that a copy of the same be sent to the Sheriff of Putnam County with instructions to make vigorous prosecution of the same.

The Secretary pro tem, the Attorney General, was ordered to communicate with M. A. Williams to the permit given by Wm. F. Salter to Elijah Higginbotham to cut logs from E $\frac{1}{2}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , E $\frac{1}{2}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  and E $\frac{1}{2}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 9, T. 1, S., R. 29, E. and ascertain all facts as to the same.

Board adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.

GEO. P. RANEY, Sec. Pro tem.

Tallahassee, Fla., June 22, 1878.

The Board met in Atty. General's Office.

Present: C. Drew, Comptroller.

W. Gwynn, Treasurer.

Geo. P. Raney, Atty. Genl.

The Comptroller acted as President pro tem and Atty. Genl. as Secy. pro tem.

It was ordered that the Secy. pro tem be instructed to instruct Mr. C. F. Hopkins to return to the neighborhood of lands indicated in his letters of 19th inst. and prosecute the trespassers mentioned, have seizures made by Sheriffs &c., and co-operate with the Sheriffs and report; and that the Secretary pro tem need not write the Sheriff of Putnam County under the resolution of the 21st inst.

Board adjourned.

C. DREW, President pro tem.

GEO. P. RANEY, Secy. pro tem.

Tallahassee, Florida, July 9, 1878.

The Board met in the Office of the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

Present: Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

The minutes of the meeting of May 29th, 30th and 31st, and June 15th, 21st and 22nd were read and approved.

A letter was received from Mr. Charles F. Hopkins, reporting that in obedience to instructions of the Board he had visited Dunn's Lake and Haw Creek and had found two rafts of timber, some of the logs of which were cut upon State land, that is to say, 13 logs from SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 33, T. 12, S., R. 29, E., one log from NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 3, T. 13, S., R. 29, E., the same having been cut by James Burnside. Two logs cut in NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 11, and seventeen in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 10, T. 13, S., R. 29, E., the same having been cut by Sterritt and Wright. The rafts were seized by the Deputy Sheriff of Putnam county. One of the rafts contained 206 logs, 19 of which were cut from State land, and was claimed by

Sterritt and Wright; the other was claimed by James Burnside and contained 150 logs, of which 14 were cut from the State land and 24 from U. S. land. Mr. Hopkins further reported that Wright and Bowden had been cutting logs from State lands in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 20 and NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 21, T. 13 S., R 28 E., 63 logs having been cut and removed in March and April last.

Letters were also received from M. A. Williams, written at the request of Mr. Sterritt, respecting the seizure of said timber.

The following resolution was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the Attorney General shall employ counsel to prosecute before a committing Magistrate Joe Wright, Henry Sterritt, Thomas Sterritt and ——— Bowden for trespassing upon the lands belonging to the Internal Improvement Fund.

The following accounts were presented, and allowed, and the Treasurer instructed to pay the same:

H. S. DuVal, for surveying T. 8 S., R. 9 W., \$685.52.

Charles F. Hopkins, for investigating trespasses, \$55.10.

M. A. Williams, Commissions on sales in May and June, \$148.22.

M. A. Williams, amt. paid B. H. Hopkins for services, \$5.00.

George P. Raney, Traveling expenses of self and Governor Walker attending U. S. Court in July, \$25.95.

George P. Raney, telegrams to and from Jacksonville in matters in the U. S. Court, \$3.69.

David S. Walker, Traveling expenses to and from Jacksonville as Attorney of the Board in June, \$35.00.

Hugh A. Corley, Telegrams and court records, \$3.10.

On motion, it was ordered that the Treasurer pay to Gov. David S. Walker one hundred dollars, on account of professional services as Attorney of the Board.

Application was received for the cancellation of Entry No. 8271 made September 8, 1877, by Laban O'Neill and William O'Neill upon the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 29, Township 30, South, Range 20, East, upon the ground that said land had not been patented to the State; and no deed having been made by the Trustees for said land, and the certificate of purchase having been returned, it was

*Ordered*, That said entry be cancelled, and the purchase money (forty dollars) paid therefor be refunded.

The following resolution was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the Attorney General be authorized to employ Messrs. Hartridge and Chisholm, of Savannah, to prosecute the claim of the Internal Improvement Fund against the Estate of Edward Houstoun for the sinking fund of the Florida Atlantic and Gulf Central Railroad.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: C. DREW, President pro tem.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, July 24, 1878.

The Board met in the Comptroller's Office.

Present: Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

The following bills were presented, approved and ordered paid:

Charles H. Foster, Clerk of the Supreme Court, for balance of costs in the following cases:

|                                                                               |         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| State of Florida & Trustees I. I. Fund vs. J. P. & M. M. R. R. Co. et al..... | \$14.72 |
| Fla. Central R. R. Co. vs. State of Florida and Trustees I. I. Fund .....     | 4.36    |
| The Trustees I. I. Fund vs. St. Johns Railway Company .....                   | 7.93    |
| W. G. Stewart, P. M. at Tallahassee, Postage for Salesman's Office.....       | 21.80   |

The Board then adjourned.

C. DREW,  
President pro tem.

Attest:  
HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

Tallahassee, Fla., Aug. 9, 1878.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Geo. F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

Geo. P. Raney, Attorney General.

The Atty. Genl. acted as Secretary.

A letter of July 19th, 1878, from the Commr. of the Genl. Land Office in relation to certain lands—Lots 1 & 2, Sec. 18 and frac. Sec. 17 & Lot 2, Sec. 7, all in T. 12 S. R. 22 E. claimed to have been erroneously patented to the State as swamp lands, and asking a relinquishment of the same, and a letter from Saml. A. Swann of Fernandina asking endorsement of the Governor, Atty. Genl. & Commr. L. & I. as to lands of Fla. L. & I. Co. were read and further consideration of the same deferred till the Comr. of L. & I. returns.

Letter of July 13, 1878, from Commr. of Genl. Land Office, notifying Governor of the final rejection of claim of State to  $W\frac{1}{2}$  of Lot 1 and  $W\frac{1}{2}$  Lot 2, Sec. 30, T. 8 S., R. 22 E. was read.

The Attorney Genl. reported having visited Savannah, Ga., and employed R. E. Lester, Esqr., to commence suit against the Executors of E. Houstoun to recover balance of Fla. A. & G. R. R. Sinking Fund moneys and it was ordered that \$100.00 be paid Mr. Lester as a retainer.

Notice from John Varnum, U. S. Receiver and J. A. Lee, Register at Gainesville of complaint by M. G. Fortner, that  $SE\frac{1}{4}$  of  $NE\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 35 &  $W\frac{1}{2}$  of  $SW\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $SW\frac{1}{4}$  of  $NW\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 36, T. 30 R. 23 is not swamp or overflowed land and of a hearing at Bartow, Polk Co., Aug. 30, 1878, was read.

Board adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW.

GEO. P. RANEY, Atty. Genl.

Sec. pro tem.

Tallahassee, Fla., Aug. 10, 1878.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Geo. F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

Geo. P. Raney, Atty. Genl.



The following telegram was received and read from Samuel A. Swann:

"Fernandina, Fla., Aug. 10, 1878.

"Benjamin J. Hilton, telegraphs from New York: 'Can you secure without Legislature charter for ship canal in perpetuity with right of way guaranteed and liberal grant of land not taxable till Canal in operation. On these conditions we will furnish the millions to pay liens on terms named by you.' Telegraph what reply I shall make."

The following reply was sent to the same:

"The Board will be disposed to make a liberal grant of land. As to other matters will do all in its power. They had better send out agent to confer."

GEO. F. DREW for Board."

Board adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW.

GEO. P. RANEY,

Atty. Genl. Sec. pro tem.

Tallahassee, Florida, August 26, 1878.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

The minutes of July 24 and August 9 & 10 were read and approved.

The copy of a letter from B. J. Hilton, of New York, to Saml. A. Swann, was placed before the Board, with respect to securing a charter for a Ship Canal across Florida, and the Secretary was instructed to reply to the communication.

The following bills were presented and approved:

Gov. George F. Drew, for telegraphing.....\$ 3.93

M. A. Williams, Coms. on sales in July..... 206.70

The account of E. J. Berry for expenses during the present year, amounting to \$378.25 was presented, and was postponed until the items charged should be more specifically stated.

A letter was received from the Commissioner of the General Land Office asking a relinquishment from the State of the title to Lots Nos. 2 & 3 Section 34, Township 26, South, Range 15, East, which lands were sold by the United States to Samuel E. Hope August 24, 1855, and which were subsequently approved and patented to the State as swamp lands.

Said letter was referred to the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:  
HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

Tallahassee, Fla., Sept. 21, 1878.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Geo. F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Atty. Genl.

The Attorney General was elected Secretary pro tem.

Bills of E. J. Berry, Timber Agent for extra expenses in January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August and September (up to 15th of Sept. & inclusive), 1878, in surveying and traveling amounting to four hundred and eighty nine dollars and ten cents (\$489.10) were approved and ordered paid.

Of the above amount \$48.91 is chargeable to school lands, as reported by Mr. B. and the School Board is liable to this Board for this amount.

Mr. Berry advises that the Merrill trespass claim be compromised.

The following resolution was passed:

Resolved that no sales shall be made of lands lying on either side of and within six miles of the Rail Road bed lying between Waldo and Ocala until the further order of this board and that the agents for the sale of land be so notified, and directed in case any application for the purchase of said lands or any part thereof is made, to

notify the applicants that the propriety of selling the same is under consideration and to note the time of all applications to purchase, in order that the person or persons first applying may have the preferred right to purchase in case it shall be determined to sell the same.

A communication from D. L. Yulee, President of Peninsular Railroad Company enclosing a copy of a deed of transfer from the Atlantic, Gulf and West India Transit Company to the Peninsular R. R. Company, of that portion of its incompleted line which lies between Waldo & Ocala, with the request that the fact of the receipt of the same be recorded in the minute book of the proceedings of the Board and that the Board acknowledge the receipt of said letter and the enclosure and requesting that the acknowledgement of the receipt of the same be verified under the seal of the Board, was received—and it was ordered that the request be complied with.

The deed of transfer is filed.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

GEO. P. RANEY,  
Secy. pro tem.

Tallahassee, Fla., Sept. 28, 1878.

The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

A letter was received from Charles A. Choate, Editor of the "Florida Immigrant" with reference to inserting an advertisement of the public lands in said paper and stating the terms for which the same will be done. It was agreed by the Board to insert an advertisement occupying one full page at the rate of twenty five dollars per month.

Notice was received from the U. S. Land Office at Gainesville that complaint had been entered at that office

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by J. J. Hatcher against the State of Florida alleging that the  $N\frac{1}{2}$  of  $SE\frac{1}{4}$  and  $N\frac{1}{2}$  of  $SW\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 20, Township 30, South, Range 23, East, is not swamp land, with a view to the cancellation of the claim of the said State to said land, and summoning the parties interested to appear at Peace Creek before Hon. J. A. Fortner, County Judge on the 21st October, 1878, to respond and furnish testimony concerning the true character of said land.

Also, a similar notice of complaint by Robert Hatcher with respect to the  $NW\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 19, Township 30, South, Range 23, East, with summons to appears at Peace Creek before Judge Fortner on the 22nd October, 1878.

Application was received from Andrew Kicklighter for a change of entry No. 7574 made by him May 9, 1876, upon the  $S\frac{1}{2}$  of  $SE\frac{1}{4}$  and  $SE\frac{1}{4}$  of  $SW\frac{1}{4}$  Section 24, T. 31 S. R. 22 E., to the  $S\frac{1}{2}$  of  $SE\frac{1}{4}$  and  $SE\frac{1}{4}$  of  $SW\frac{1}{4}$  Section 24, T. 31 S., R. 21 E., and said application being accompanied with the affidavit required in such cases and with the deed executed by the Trustees, and with a deed from said Andrew Kicklighter reconveying the lands originally purchased to the Trustees, *It was Ordered*, that the change of entry applied for be allowed.

An application was received from J. V. Harris, of Monroe county, for the privilege of draining 1280 acres of unsurveyed overflowed land lying on the North bank of Roger's river about two miles from its mouth, the said land to be conveyed to the said Harris in consideration of reclaiming the same and small price per acre—

*Ordered*, That the Salesman write to the County Surveyor of Monroe county to examine the land and report its condition, and so describe the tract wanted by Dr. Harris that the same may be clearly set forth in any contract for the reclamation thereof.

The Commissioner of Lands and Immigration, to whom was referred the letter of the Commissioner of the General Land Office of August 5, 1878, asking a relinquishment of the State's title to Lots Nos. 2 and 3, Section 34, T. 26 S., R. 15 E., which lots were sold by the United States to Samuel E. Hope, August 24, 1855, but were subsequently patented to the State as swamp lands, reported that said lots had been sold by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund to John Parsons March 11, 1867, and the State having thus parted with the title could not

now make the desired relinquishment to the United States; and the Governor has notified the Commissioner of the General Land Office to that effect.

The account of M. A. Williams, amounting to \$51.42, commissions on sales at Jacksonville for the month of August, 1878, was received, approved and ordered paid.

On motion, the Treasurer was directed to pay Hon. Geo. P. Raney, One hundred dollars on account of professional services as Attorney of the Board.

The affidavit and testimony furnished by James P. Stone with respect to the reclamation of lands in Sections 4, 5, 8 and 17, Township 3, South, Range 9, West, was read and decided to be satisfactory, and the Salesman was instructed to prepare a deed for the signature of the Trustees conveying to said James B. Stone 160 acres of the land reclaimed by him in accordance with the resolution of the Board adopted March 6, 1877.

The Secretary laid before the Board a letter from S. I. Wailes, Esq., the agent for the adjustment of the land claims of the State before the Department of the Interior in Washington, in which he calls the attention of the Board to the fact that patents for a large quantity of swamp lands selected prior to 1861 have been executed by the General Government, and the delivery thereof withheld by order of the Department, and requesting to be informed whether he, the said Wailes, will be entitled to his commissions on procuring the delivery of said patents under the resolution, adopted by the Board April 13, 1878.

It was unanimously agreed by the Board that the resolution adopted April 13, 1878, employing S. I. Wailes, Esq., as Agent to procure the adjustment of the claims of the State for swamp lands selected prior to 1861, was intended to allow him the amount of commissions therein agreed upon for all lands selected as swamp prior to said date for which no patents had yet been received by the State, whether such patents had been issued or not.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.



Tallahassee, Florida, October 4, 1878.

The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

The following resolution was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the appraisement of the Internal Improvement Lands in Madison and Hamilton counties embraced in List No. 21 of the Tallahassee Land District be reduced to one dollar and twenty five cents per acre, and that said lands be sold at that price hereafter.

Attorney General Raney laid before the Board a notice addressed to him and James M. Baker, Esq., as Solicitors of the Board, from the Solicitor of Francis Vose, giving notice that on the 21st instant witnesses would be examined in the City of New York before a Commissioner to testify in the matter of the claim of Mr. Vose for expenses in prosecuting his suit against the Trustees. The Attorney General was requested to write to Judge Baker and request him to attend at said examination of witnesses and represent this Board.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, October 10, 1878.

The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund met in the Treasurer's Office.

Present: Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The Treasurer laid before the Board a communication from James M. Baker, Esq., announcing his intention of going to New York, in compliance with the request of the Board, to represent the Trustees before the Commissioner appointed to take testimony in the suit of Francis Vose,

and asking a remittance of \$150 to pay traveling expenses. There being no money in the Treasury, on motion unanimously agreed to, the Treasurer was authorized and requested to borrow said amount of money, and send it to Judge Baker for the purposes specified.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: C. DREW, President pro tem.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida. October 19, 1878.

The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The minutes of August 26, September 21 and 28 and October 4 and 10 were read and approved.

The following accounts were presented and approved, viz:

George P. Raney, Traveling Expenses to Savannah and Jacksonville on the business of the Board, \$30.00.

M. A. Williams, Commissions on sales in September, \$34.38.

W. G. Stewart, Postage for Salesman's office, \$3.20.

A. Doggett, for copy of record of coupons, \$5.00.

C. A. Choate for advertisement in Immigrant for October, \$25.00.

Charles E. Dyke, printing for salesman's office, \$46.00.

The Secretary laid before the Board a letter from S. I. Wailes, Esq., stating what progress had been made in the General Land Office towards the adjustment of the land claims of the State, and inquiring what compensation will be allowed him for procuring the approval and patenting of swamp lands selected for the State since 1861.

It was unanimously agreed by the Board that they will allow as compensation to Mr. Wailes for procuring the confirmation of swamp lands selected for the State since the war, two cents per acre for every acre patented to the State, to be paid in lands at the current price for such lands at the date of any payment.

A letter was received from Mr. William C. Cloyd, of Gainesville, stating that he is preparing for publication a work on Florida, and giving the terms on which he will insert an advertisement of State lands—

*Ordered.* That the Secretary reply to Mr. Cloyd that the present embarrassed condition of the Fund will not justify the Board in inserting the proposed advertisement.

A letter was received from Mr. D. R. Knowlton stating that objection had been made in the Circuit Court of St. Johns County to a deed executed by the Trustees to certain swamp land in which he owns an interest, on the ground that said deed should have been executed in the presence of witnesses, and requesting to know if such attestation of the signatures of the Trustees is necessary to the validity of their deeds.

The Secretary stated that he had replied to the letter of Mr. Knowlton, expressing the opinion that the seal of the Florida State Land Office was a sufficient attestation of deeds executed by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund; and the letter of Mr. Knowlton was placed on file.

Notice was received from the U. S. Land Office at Gainesville that Charles E. Fortner contests the swamp selection of N $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 35, NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 36, and SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 26, T. 30, S. R. 23, E. and summoning all parties interested to appear at Peace Creek before Hon. J. A. Fortner, County Judge, on the 1st November next to respond and furnish testimony concerning the true character of said land.

Notice was also received of a similar complaint by J. Ashley Fortner respecting SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  and SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 22, and NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  and NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 27, T. 30, S. R. 23, E., with summons to appear at Peace Creek before Judge Fortner on the 2d November.

Application was received from Mathias M. Blackburn for a change of Entry No. 8396 from the E $\frac{1}{2}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 26, Township 3, South, Range 14 East, to the E $\frac{1}{2}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of the same section. Mr. Blackburn having returned his deed and made the required affidavit, it is *Ordered*, That the change of entry be allowed upon his executing a deed conveying the first named tract to the Trustees.

Application was received from William Van Fleet, Nathan S. Blount, William B. Varn and Alfred H. Parslow

asking a change of Entry No. 8484, so as to substitute the S $\frac{1}{2}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  and NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 24, Township 27, South, Range 25, East, in the place of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  and NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 30, Township 27, South, Range, 26, East, and NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 36, Township 27, South, Range 25, East. Said application was accompanied with the affidavit in such cases required and with a deed re-conveying to the Trustees the last named lands; whereupon, it was *Ordered*, That the change of entry be allowed.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, October 31, 1878.

The Board met.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.

The following preamble and resolution were adopted:

Upon consideration of the application of the Peninsular Railroad Company for such modification of the seventh specification of the Sixth Section of the Internal Improvement Act of January 6, 1855, as will authorize the use of iron upon the track of their road between Waldo and Ocala of the weight of thirty five pounds to the lineal yard, in virtue of the authority vested in this Board by the amendatory act approved December 14, 1855.

*It is Resolved*, That this Board gives consent and approval to the use of iron upon the track of said road weighing thirty five pounds to the lineal yard, instead of sixty pounds per lineal yard as required in the seventh specification of the Sixth Section of the Act of January 6, 1855; and that the application of the said Peninsular Railroad Company be filed among the records of the Board.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
\_\_\_\_\_, Sec. pro tem.

Tallahassee, Florida, November 15, 1878.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The Governor laid before the Board a communication from Mr. Alfred H. Parslow recommending that Mr. William Van Fleet be employed as agent for the sale of lands in Chicago; which was read, and the Secretary instructed to correspond with Mr. Van Fleet in reference to such proposed agency.

Mr. James B. Stone applied for a deed to Lot No. 1 and S $\frac{1}{2}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  and NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 8, in Township 3, South, Range 9, West, in consideration of the drainage of certain lands in said township under the contract made with the Board March 7th, 1877, and the Salesman was instructed to prepare a deed conveying the lands applied for to the said James B. Stone.

The following accounts were presented and approved:

Florida Immigrant, Advertising for November, \$25.00.

M. A. Williams, Coms. on sales in October, \$28.00.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, November 22, 1878.

The Board met in the Attorney General's Office.

Present: Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

Mr. James G. Merrill and Mr. T. J. Moore appeared before the Board for the purpose of effecting a compromise in the matter of certain cedar seized by the Sheriff of Wakulla county as cut by Mr. Merrill upon State lands, and afterwards claimed by said Merrill and delivered to him under the 6th Section of the Act of March 6, 1877, and concerning which proceedings are now pending in Jefferson Circuit Court. The Commissioner of Lands and



Immigration stated that after consultation with several of the Trustees, he had authorized the Timber Agent, Mr. Berry, to compromise said claim upon the payment by Mr. Merrill of ten cents per cubic foot for the cedar and the costs of the proceedings. Mr. Merrill offered to compromise by paying five cents per cubic foot for the cedar.

Messrs. Merrill and Moore having withdrawn, the Board consulted together and agreed that if Mr. Merrill would pay stumpage on the cedar at ten cents per cubic foot, the proceedings in court might be dismissed, each party paying his own costs.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: C. DREW, President pro tem.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, November 30, 1873.

The Board met in the Attorney General's Office.

Present: Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

Mr. Gwynn was chosen President pro tem.

Mr. Corley offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Be it Resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, That prior to entries being made under and by virtue of the resolution adopted February 1, 1877, allowing and regulating pre-emptions on unconfirmed swamp lands, proof of the settlement thereby required shall be made to the satisfaction of the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration, under such rules as may be prescribed by this Board; and where a pre-emption claim has continued the cultivation and improvement of the land. Certificates of pre-emption hereafter issued shall only be assigned, the assignee shall make proof that he has assigned by returning the same to the Salesman of the Board with a written assignment indorsed thereon or accompanying the same, together with an affidavit of the assignee that he has procured said assignment for the purpose of occupying and cultivating the lands embraced in such certificate; whereupon, a new certificate will be is-*

sued to the assignee. Where a person entitled to claim the benefits of the pre-emption regulations dies before the time fixed for consummating his claim by entry, the rights of entering the land shall inure to the widow, or, if there be no widow, to the heirs or devisee. Where any lands have been or may be claimed as a pre-emption under the regulations of this Board, and it shall be shown to the satisfaction of the Board or the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration, that the claimant has never settled upon said land, or that the lands, at the time of filing the declaratory statement and affidavit, embraced the residence, cultivated lands or improvements of any other person than the claimant, or that the settler has abandoned said land, such pre-emption claim shall be canceled and the lands shall be subject to pre-emption by any other actual settler.

The following accounts were presented and allowed:

W. G. Stewart, P. M. at Tallahassee, Postage for Salesman's office, \$20.00.

Hugh A. Corley, cash paid for telegrams and copy of orders and papers in U. S. Circuit Court (Vose vs. Trustees), \$8.85.

On motion, it was *Ordered*. That the Treasurer pay to David S. Walker, Esq., One hundred dollars on account of professional services as Attorney of the Board.

The following applications were received for changes of entry and were allowed by the Board:

By Samuel Hammock, Entry No. 5598, from  $W\frac{1}{2}$  of  $SW\frac{1}{4}$  Section 34, Township 3, South, Range 10, East, to  $W\frac{1}{2}$  of  $SW\frac{1}{4}$  Section 34, Township 3, North, Range 10, East.

By Charity E. McAulav, Entry No. 4052, from the South half of Lot No. 2 of  $NW\frac{1}{4}$  Section 18, Township 31, South, Range 25, East, to the South half of Lot No. 2 of  $NW\frac{1}{4}$  Section 18, Township 31, South, Range 26, East.

By William H. Emmons, Entry No. 8251, from  $SE\frac{1}{4}$  of  $NE\frac{1}{4}$  Section 13, Township 32, South, Range 18, East, to  $NW\frac{1}{4}$  of  $SE\frac{1}{4}$  of same section.

The Salesman represented to the Board that in March last, Mrs. Hannah Jane Patrick had forwarded money to enter Lot No. 3 of Section 1, and Lot No. 1 of Section 2, Township 29, South, Range 18, East, which money was duly received, but the entry was not made at the time because Mrs. Patrick had expressed an intention to forward

by the next mail the money to enter more land adjacent thereto; that the remittance and application were overlooked and on the 2nd April James H. Hutchinson was permitted to enter the N $\frac{1}{2}$  of Lot No. 11 of Section 2 in said Township, being a part of the land applied for and paid for by Mrs. Patrick, but no deed was made to said Hutchinson for said land: Whereupon, *It was Ordered*, That Entry No. 8496 of the N $\frac{1}{2}$  of Lot No. 1, Section 2, T. 29, S., R. 18, E., made by said Hutchinson April 2d, 1878, be canceled, and that the purchase money paid therefor be refunded upon return of the certificate of purchase.

Notice was received from the U. S. Land Office at Gainesville that David Branch contests the State selection of W $\frac{1}{2}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  and E $\frac{1}{2}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 36, Township 30, South, Range 23, East, alleging that the same is not swamp nor overflowed land, and summoning all interested parties to appear at Peace Creek before J. A. Fortner, County Judge, on the 23d December, 1878, to respond and furnish testimony concerning the true character of said land.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: C. DREW, President pro tem.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, December 6, 1878.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

The Comptroller acted as Secretary.

The Board having received the copy of an order of the Circuit Court of the Northern District of Florida, dated 5th December, 1878, modifying the order of May, 1877, which authorized the Trustees to receive in payment for lands one half of the coupons of the bonds issued under the provisions of the Internal Improvement Act, so as to authorize the Trustees to require, at their discretion, the payment of not more than twenty per cent. of the price of any sale to be made in lawful money of the United States, it was

Resolved, That the Salesman be directed to require the said payment of twenty per cent. from this date.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
C. DREW, Secretary pro tem.

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Tallahassee, Florida, December 17th, 1878.

Board met in the Attorney General's Office.

Present: Hon. C. Drew, Comptroller.

Hon. Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

Hon. Geo. P. Raney, Attorney General.

The Comptroller acted as President *pro tem* and the Attorney General as Secretary *pro tem*.

The following accounts were approved and ordered paid viz:

Walter Gwynn, Esq., for amount borrowed and advanced to James M. Baker, Esq., Atty. for Board to pay his expenses to New York to attend the taking of testimony in the matter of the petition of Francis Vose for expenses, &c. in the case of F. Vose v. Trustees I. I. Fund (one hundred and fifty dollars), \$150.00.

W. K. Beard, for taking testimony in behalf of Trustees Int. Im. Fund of R. H. Gamble, T. W. Brewer, & C. H. Foster, (twenty five dollars), \$25.00.

Geo. P. Raney fr expenses at Jacksonville to attend the United States Court (twenty one 75-100) \$21.75.

D. S. Walker, For expenses at Jacksonville to attend the United States Court (Ten dollars), \$10.00.

The Board adjourned.

Attest: C. DREW, Prest. pro tem.  
GEO. P. RANEY, Sec. pro tem.

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Tallahassee, Florida, December 21, 1878.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The minutes of October 19th and 31st, November 15th, 22d and 30th, and December 6th and 17th were read and approved.

The following accounts were approved and ordered paid:

Florida Immigrant, advertising for December, \$25.00.

M. A. Williams, Commissions on sales in November, \$119.09.

A letter was received from A. N. Pacetti, Sheriff and ex-officio Timber Agent for St. Johns County, complaining that parties commit trespass by cutting timber on the public lands, and when the Timber Agent proceeds to survey the lands to inquire into the trespass they send forward the money and enter the land, thus attempting to shield themselves from responsibility, when they would not have made the entry but for the steps taken by the Timber Agent to investigate the trespass.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

*Resolved*, That whenever any Timber Agent shall have cause to suspect that any person or persons have committed or are committing trespass upon any of the State lands and shall notify the Salesman of this Board or the Agent for the sale of lands at Jacksonville of that fact, and shall request the Salesman or Agent to withhold such lands from sale until he can ascertain whether such trespass has been committed and can take the necessary steps for the prosecution of the offenders or seizure of timber, said Salesman and Agent shall not permit any person to enter such lands or any part thereof until the Timber Agent shall report his proceedings in reference thereto and shall have had an opportunity to take the necessary legal steps for the protection of the State property and prosecution of the trespassers:

*Provided*, that no lands shall be withheld from sale under this resolution longer than four weeks.

The Secretary laid before the Board a letter from William Van Fleet, of Chicago, in reference to the establishment of an agency for the sale of lands at that place; which was read and referred to the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration for reply.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.



Tallahassee, Florida, January 16, 1879.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

An application was received from John J. Strickland for a change of Entry No. 8476 made by him, from the North East quarter of the South East quarter of Section Three, in Township Eleven, South, of Range Twenty four, East, to the South East quarter of the North West quarter of the same section; and the original deed having been returned, and a deed executed relinquishing the first named tract to the Trustees, and the affidavit having been made in accordance with the regulation of the Board, it was

*Ordered*, That the change of entry be made as requested.

The following accounts were presented, approved and ordered paid:

The Florida Immigrant, advertisement in January number, \$25.00.

W. G. Stewart, P. M., Postage and box rent, Salesman's Office, \$10.00.

W. P. Denham, Apthorp's Map for use of Timber Agent, \$1.00.

M. A. Williams, Commissions on Sales in December, 1878, \$17.49.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, January 20, 1879.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

Hon. James G. Speer and Hon. John M. Bryan appeared before the Board on behalf of the Apopka Canal Com-

pany, with respect to a contract for the construction of a canal connecting the waters of Lake Apopka and Lake Eustis and the drainage of the overflowed lands adjacent to Lake Apopka and Lake Dora, in consideration of the lands so reclaimed. After some time spent in discussing the merits and details of the proposed measure, the consideration thereof was postponed until another meeting.

An application was received from Elisha Padgett for a change of Entry No. 8455, made by him April 8, 1878, from the N $\frac{1}{2}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 27, Township 7, South, Range 20, East, to the N $\frac{1}{2}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of the same section, and the original deed having been returned, and a deed executed reconveying the first named tract to the Trustees, and the required affidavit having been made, it was

*Ordered*, That the change of entry be made as requested.

The Commissioner of Lands and Immigration laid before the Board a communication from William H. Milton, Esq., State's Attorney for the 1st Judicial Circuit, alleging that the State lands in Holmes County are being trespassed upon and the timber cut and removed, and that the county officers are without maps to guide them in the detection and punishment of the trespassers; and suggesting that such maps be furnished.

On motion, the Salesman was authorized to have plats prepared and furnished to the County officers of Holmes County, showing the location of the State Lands.

The Governor laid before the Board a letter from Mr. H. S. Duncan recommending the establishment of an agency in Santa Rosa county, for the sale of State Lands; which was read and referred to the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration for reply.

The following bills were presented, approved and ordered paid:

|                                                                                                              |         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| George P. Raney, Traveling Expenses to Jacksonville and back on professional business for the Trustees ..... | \$13.50 |
| W. T. Webster, copy of field notes furnished Timber Agent .....                                              | 3.00    |

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, January 28, 1879.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands  
and Immigration.

The proceedings of the last three meetings were read and approved.

The account of John McDaugall for stationery furnished the Salesman's office, amounting to \$6.35 was presented and approved.

Messrs. John C. Chambers and H. W. Walter appeared before the Board and presented the plan and designs of the Tropical Florida Railway, Tramroad, Canal, and European Colonization Company, proposing to construct a line of railway from some point on the railroad west of Jacksonville through South Florida, and also to reclaim large bodies of swamp and overflowed lands, and promote immigration; and some time was spent in discussing the merits of the proposed enterprise and the aid that could lawfully be extended in the construction of the contemplated improvements.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, January 30th, 1879

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.

The Attorney General was chosen Secretary pro tem.

The account of R. Fenwick Taylor for forty dollars for professional services rendered the Board in the matter of timber seizure at Cedar Keys was approved and ordered paid.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

GEO. P. RANEY,  
Sec. pro tem.

Tallahassee, Florida, February 4, 1879.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

The Committee on Public Lands of the Assembly appeared and conferred with the Board with respect to the present condition of the Internal Improvement Fund and the measures best calculated to relieve the Fund from its embarrassments.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.  
19 I. I.

Tallahassee, Florida, February 5, 1879.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

Samuel B. Thompson having, on the 3d July, 1856, entered the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 25, and the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  & NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 26, in Township 7, South, Range 19, East, (Entry No. 1343) for which a deed was made to him September 26, 1859, and it appearing that the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 26 did not belong to the Internal Improvement Fund, applied for a cancellation of the entry as to that tract and the refunding of the purchase money paid therefor; and the said Samuel B. Thompson having executed a deed reconveying said lands to the Trustees, and having made an affidavit that the original deed issued to him had been destroyed by fire, it was

*Ordered*, That the said Entry be cancelled as to the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 26, and that the purchase money paid therefor, amounting to \$54.50 be refunded; and that a new deed for the other lands be executed and delivered to the said S. B. Thompson.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, February 11, 1879.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

Several communications were laid before the Board from S. I. Wailes, Esq., respecting the progress in procuring a settlement of the land claims of the State and the hind-



rances thereto, and Mr. Ingham Coryell, of Washington, appeared before the Board, as representing Mr. Wailes and made verbal statements upon the same matters. Among other papers transmitted by Mr. Wailes was a copy of an appointment by Governor Stearns made November 10, 1875, appointing Leonard G. Dennis as Agent of the State to prosecute claims before the Land Department in Washington; an agreement between said Dennis and Charles Pomeroy, appointing said Pomeroy as Attorney for the prosecution of such claims, and agreeing to pay him ten per cent. in kinds for all moneys, scrip and lands secured by him; an affidavit of said Pomeroy respecting his employment by said Dennis and that as the result of his labors he had procured the issuing of a patent to the State for more than 58,000 acres of swamp lands; also letters from R. G. and E. C. Ingersoll, Attorneys of said Pomeroy, addressed to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, requesting that the patent so issued be withheld until the settlement of Mr. Pomeroy's claim for per centage thereon. According to the statements made by Mr. Wailes in his letters and by Mr. Coryell, the General Land Office recognized Mr. Dennis as the State Agent, and Mr. Pomeroy as his Attorney, and Mr. Pomeroy did the work at the Land Department resulting in the issuing of said patent. Whereupon the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

*Whereas*, information has been received by this Board that a patent for about 58,000 acres of swamp lands has been executed by the government of the United States to the State of Florida, and is now in the General Land Office retained by reason of an alleged claim thereon for the services of the Agent or Attorney in procuring the same—the said claim having been asserted by Charles Pomeroy, Esq., as the Attorney of Leonard G. Dennis, formerly Commissioned as Agent of the State, and being for the amount of ten per cent. of the lands embraced in said patent; and it appearing that the issuing of said patent was secured by the services of said Pomeroy.

*Be it Resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund*, That Sidney I. Wailes, Esq., our agent before the Land Department in Washington, be authorized to adjust the said claim of said Charles Pomeroy by allowing commissions not to exceed ten per cent.

of the lands patented as aforesaid, upon receiving from Mr. Pomeroy a release from himself and the said Leonard G. Dennis of all claims against the State or the Internal Improvement Fund on account of the patenting of said lands.

*Be it further Resolved*, That upon the adjustment of said claim and the delivery of the said patents, the said Charles Pomeroy shall be authorized to select the lands to which he is entitled, and due conveyance thereof will be made to him.

Mr. Coryell, on behalf of Mr. Wailes, delivered to the Governor a patent for swamp lands amounting to 29,509.75, and said patent was delivered to the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration to be deposited in the State Land Office.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Mr. S. L. Wailes having delivered to the Governor a patent for swamp lands embracing 29,509.75-100 acres, and being entitled to eight per cent of said lands under the resolution adopted April 13, 1878, amounting to 2,360.78 acres;

*Resolved*, That Mr. Wailes be authorized to select the said quantity of lands to which he is entitled as aforesaid from those embraced in said patent; and the Salesman is authorized and instructed to convey to him the lands so selected, and shall prepare a deed of conveyance thereof to be executed by the Trustees, or deliver to said Wailes certificates of purchase for the lands so selected, which certificates shall be assignable, and for which deeds will be substituted whenever surrendered and filed with the Board by the said Wailes or his assignees.

On motion, the Salesman was authorized to purchase from A. J. Russell 2,000 copies of a pamphlet called "Florida as a Permanent Home," provided they can be obtained for \$60.

Mr. George P. Raney presented a bill amounting to \$25.84 for copies of all the decrees rendered in the Vose suit, copied in a book by the Clerk of the U. S. Court at Jacksonville, which was approved and ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, February 12, 1879.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands  
and Immigration.

A communication was received from 15 members of the Assembly recommending the re-establishment of what is known as the "Stumpage system." in the disposal of the timber upon the lands belonging to the Internal Improvement Fund.

The Assembly Committee on Public Lands met in consultation with the Board of Trustees upon the subject matter of the change recommended in said communication, and an interchange of views was had showing a diversity of opinion respecting the proposed measure.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, February 20, 1879.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands  
and Immigration.

The minutes of the six last minutes were read and approved.

The proposition of the Apopka Canal Company for the constructin of canals from Lake Apopka to Lake Dora and from Lake Dora to Lake Eustis, and the drainage of certain swamp and overflowed lands on and near Lake Apopka, was taken up for consideration, and, after some time spent in discussing the merits of the proposition, the further consideration thereof was postponed until another meeting.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, February 25, 1879.

(The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands  
and Immigration.

Messrs. John C. Chambers and H. W. Walter, representing the Midland Railway Drainage and Canal Company, appeared before the board, and stated the objects of their association with reference to drainage of lands and construction of canals, preparatory to a proposition to be made to the Board for a contract for the performance of the work.

The proposition of the Apopka Canal Company, for the construction of canals and for drainage, was again taken up for consideration; and the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

*Be it Resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, That the Apopka Canal Company are hereby authorized to enter and ditch and drain the following swamp and overflowed lands, to-wit:*

*Fractional Section Two;* the South East quarter of the North East quarter, the East half of the South East quarter, and the South West quarter of the South East quarter of *Section Ten*; the West half of the North West quarter, the North East quarter of the South East quarter, the West half of the South East quarter, and the South West quarter of *Section Eleven*; the East half of the North East quarter, the North West quarter of the North East quarter, the North half of the North West quarter, and the South half of the South West quarter of *Section Thirteen*; the North East quarter of the North West quarter, the West half of the North West quarter, and the South West quarter of *Section Fourteen*; the North half of the North East quarter, the South West quarter of the North West quarter and the South West quarter of the South West quarter of *Section Fifteen*; the East half, the East half of the North West quarter, and the East half of the South West quarter of *Section Twenty-three*; all of *Section Twenty-four*; the East half, the South East quarter of the North West quarter, the

West half of the North West quarter, and the South West quarter of *Section Twenty-five*; all of *Section Twenty-six*; the South East quarter of the North West quarter, and the South East quarter of *Section Twenty-seven*; the South East quarter of the North East quarter, and the East half of the South East quarter of *Section Thirty-three*; all of *Section Thirty-four*; the West half of *Section Thirty-five*; and all of *Section Thirty-six*; in *Township Twenty, South, of Range Twenty-six, East*.

The Lots numbered One, Two, Three, Four and Five, and the South West quarter of *Section One*; all of *Sections Two and Three*; the Lot numbered One of *Section Four*; the South East quarter of the South East quarter of *Section Five*; the East half and the North East quarter of the South West quarter of *Section Eight*; the West half of the North West quarter, the East half of the South East quarter, the South West quarter of the South East quarter, and the South West quarter of *Section Nine*; all of *Section Ten*; the Lots numbered One, Two, Three, Four, Five, Six, Seven, Eight, Ten and Eleven of *Section Eleven*; the Lots numbered One and Four of *Section Fourteen*; all of *Section Fifteen*; the North East quarter of the North East quarter of *Section Seventeen*; the East half of the North East quarter, the North West quarter of the North East quarter, and the South East quarter of the South East quarter of *Section Twenty-one*; the Lots numbered One, Two, Three, Four, Five, Six, Seven, Ten, Eleven, and Twelve of *Section Twenty-two*; all of fractional *Section Twenty-three*; the Lots numbered Three, Four and Five and Nine of *Section Twenty-seven*; the North East quarter of the North East quarter, and the South East quarter of the South East quarter of *Section Twenty-eight*; the North West quarter of the North East quarter of *Section Thirty-three*; the North East quarter of the North East quarter, the West half of the North East quarter, the East half of the South East quarter, and the South half of the South West quarter of *Section Thirty-four*; and the Lots numbered Two, Three, Four and Five of *Section Thirty-five*, in *Township Twenty-one, South, of Range Twenty-six, East*.

The South East quarter of the North West quarter, and the East half of the South West quarter of *Section*



*Twelve*; the East half of the North West quarter of *Section Thirteen*; the West half of the North East quarter, the South East quarter, and the West half of *Section Twenty-three*; and the South East quarter of the South West quarter of *Section Twenty-four*, in *Township Twenty-two, South, of Range Twenty-six, East*.

The South half of the South East quarter, and the South half of the South West quarter of *Section Twenty*; the South half of the South East quarter, and the South half of the South West quarter of *Section Twenty-one*; the West half of the North West quarter, the South West quarter of the South East quarter, and the South West quarter of *Section Twenty-seven*; all of *Section Twenty-eight*; the East half, the East half of the North West quarter, and the East half of the South West quarter of *Section Twenty-nine*; the South half of the North East quarter, the South half of the North West quarter, and the South half of *Section Thirty-one*; all of *Sections Thirty-two and Thirty-three*; and the South East quarter of the North East quarter, the West half of the North East quarter, the South East quarter, and the West half of *Section Thirty-four*; in *Township Twenty, South, of Range Twenty-seven, East*.

The North West quarter, the South East quarter of the South West quarter and the fractional West half of the South West quarter of *Section Two*; and all of fractional *Section Eleven* in *Township Twenty-one, South, of Range Twenty-seven, East*.

*Be it further Resolved*, That when the Apopka Canal Company shall drain lands and render them fit for cultivation, and shall construct a navigable canal connecting the waters of Lake Apopka with Lake Dora, and also a navigable canal between Lake Dora and Lake Eustis, or render the Oclawaha river navigable between said Lakes, said canals to be of sufficient depth and width to be navigated, at ordinary stages of water on said Lakes, by steamboats drawing thirty inches of water and of not less than twenty feet beam, and for such boats to pass each other, and shall furnish to this Board proof of the completion of said canals and the drainage of at least three fourths of said lands, this Board will convey to the said Apopka Canal Company four fifths of the lands mentioned in the foregoing resolution; *provided*, said

work shall be done and proof thereof made on or before the first day of January, 1881. *Be it further Resolved*, That if the said canals shall be completed before the first day of January, 1881, and three fourths of all the lands aforesaid have not been drained so as to render them fit for cultivation, then this Board will convey to said Company four-fifths of the lands which have been reclaimed; and said company shall be allowed one year longer to reclaim the remainder, and four fifths of such lands as may thereafter be reclaimed by said Company, prior to the first day of January, 1882, shall be conveyed to said Company on proof of such reclamation. But if it shall appear and be proved that three fourths of the lands mentioned in the first resolution have been reclaimed, the Company shall receive four fifths of the whole quantity.

*Be it further Resolved*, That every forty acre lot, or other equivalent legal subdivision, shall be considered reclaimed under these resolutions, when the greater part thereof has been rendered fit for the cultivation of corn, cotton or sugar cane, or the ground has been placed in such condition that it will become fit for such cultivation by the drying of the soil without further drainage. In selecting the four fifths to which the said Company may be entitled under these resolutions, the tracts shall be taken in regular order, in the smallest subdivisions, the Company taking four tracts and leaving one for the Fund, until the full amount has been selected.

*Be it further Resolved*, That these resolutions are adopted on the express condition that the canals constructed by the Apopka Canal Company, whoever may own or operate the same, shall be forever free to all boats navigating the same, and that said Company or other owners or operators of said canals will not charge any tolls or other compensation for the passage of boats or for the privilege of transporting freight or passengers thereon.

A petition was received from G. J. Arnow, Trustee of Esther L. Arnow, stating that on the 25th November, 1868, he purchased from the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund fractional Section 18, Township 12, South, Range 22, East, and received a deed for said tract, which tract had been patented to the State as swamp land; that on subsequent inquiries at the General Land

Office in Washington and the State Land Office in Tallahassee, he was officially informed that his title was good; that he made valuable improvements upon the land; that it afterwards was shown that said tract had been located in the U. S. Land Office with a Surveyor General's Certificate by George R. Fairbanks on the 5th April, 1854, prior to the selection of said land by the State, and that the land was therefore erroneously patented to the State; that he received notice of the action taken by the Trustees on the 7th February, 1877, requesting him to surrender his title to said land in order that the same might be re-conveyed to the United States, and in case of his refusal to do so, authorizing the said George R. Fairbanks to institute suit to compel a surrender of the deed and a reconveyance of the land; that, at the request of said Fairbanks, he had conveyed the land to him for the consideration of fifty dollars; and the petitioner now asks that the Trustees reimburse him for his losses and outlays by reason of the circumstances set forth.

The petition was referred to Mr. Raney for investigation.

The following accounts were presented and approved:  
 M. A. Williams, Coms. on sales in January.....\$50.31  
 W. T. Webster, T. plat furnished Salesman's office 2.00

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

*Whereas*, on the 4th day of February, 1869, the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund adopted a resolution permitting William H. Gleason to enter upon and ditch and drain any of the swamp and overflowed lands included in Township Thirty-eight and those Townships immediately south of said Township, and extending to and including Township Forty-nine, in Range Forty-one, East, and the Townships on the Atlantic Coast in Ranges Forty-two and Forty-three, East, which lie East of the Township mentioned, and providing that upon the opening or digging of any such ditches or drains, and on due proof thereof, the said Gleason shall be allowed to purchase 640 acres of the swamp lands within said limits for forty dollars for each 50,000 cubic feet of such ditches or drains: *And Whereas*, On the same day and year aforesaid, a resolution was adopted giving similar powers and privileges, with the same stipulations and conditions, to William H. Hunt with respect to the

swamp and overflowed lands South of Township Forty-nine, and extending South and East to the mouth of the Miami river, and including ranges Forty, Forty-one and Forty-two, East, with the additional privilege of improving and rendering navigable the water-courses within said limits, and 150,000 cubic feet of such water-course so rendered navigable, being considered equivalent to 50,000 cubic feet of ditch or drain:

*And Whereas*, It was stipulated and provided that the necessary work under said resolutions should be prosecuted with reasonable diligence:

*And Whereas*, The said William H. Hunt has never furnished any evidence or statement showing, that at any time in the past ten years, he has ever performed any of the work authorized by said resolutions; and the said William H. Gleason has furnished no evidence or statement of any work done by him in the district assigned to him, except a claim made to the Board, in May 1875, for work alleged to have been done by him in digging a canal or ditch from Lake Worth into the Atlantic, which claim is now in litigation and has not been prosecuted by the said Gleason for the last two years and more:

*And Whereas*, It has been represented to members of this Board that the said Gleason and Hunt claim that, under the said resolutions, they (the said Gleason and Hunt) have the right to exercise acts of control over the State lands within the district respectively assigned to each, without regard to any work performed by them as contemplated in said resolutions, which illegal assumption of authority can be used to hinder and obstruct the settlement of that portion of the State:

*And Whereas*, No pretext for the exercise of such power should appear upon the record of the official acts of this Board: Therefore,

*Be it Resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida*, That the Resolutions adopted by the Board, February 4, 1869, authorizing William H. Gleason and William H. Hunt to enter upon, ditch and drain certain swamp and overflowed lands and purchase a certain quantity thereof on certain conditions and at certain stipulated prices, be and the same are hereby rescinded and repealed.

*Be it further Resolved*, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the Clerks of the Circuit Court of Dade and Brevard counties, and that said resolutions be published in one newspaper in Key West and one in Jacksonville.

The Salesman reported that he could not purchase 2,000 copies of "Florida as a Permanent Home" for \$60, as authorized by the Board on the 11th inst., and read a letter from A. J. Russell, Esq., offering said pamphlet at \$60 per thousand.

An application was received from Samuel B. Thompson for the cancellation of so much of entry No. 3911 as embraces the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 25, Township 7, South, Range 19, East, and the refunding of the purchase money paid therefor. Said entry was made by said Thompson October 24, 1862, and embraced the above named tract and the S $\frac{1}{2}$  of Lot No. 2, Section 2, Township 8, South, Range 19, East, but the first named tract had been entered by him at the U. S. Land Office in Newnansville October 12, 1854, which entry was confirmed by the Act of Congress approved March 2, 1855. A letter was also received from the Commissioner of the General Land Office reciting said entry and requesting that the land be re-conveyed to the United States. A deed was executed by said Thompson re-conveying the land to the Trustees.

On motion of Mr. Corley, it was

*Ordered*, That said entry be canceled, and that the purchase money paid for said tract, amounting to \$29.96 be refunded, and that said land be re-conveyed to the United States.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, March 3, 1879.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.



The following concurrent resolution of the Assembly and Senate was laid before the Board:

*Resolved by the Assembly, the Senate concurring, That the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of this State be and they are hereby required to report to this Legislature, what, if any, "tariff of prices for transportation and freight," on the several railroads of this State, has been established by them, or their predecessors in office, agreeably to the provisions of the "Act to define the duties of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund," approved December 7th, 1864."*

The following letter was prepared, approved and ordered to be transmitted to the Assembly, in response to said resolution:

Tallahassee, March 3, 1879.

Hon. Charles Dougherty,

Speaker of the Assembly:

Sir: In response to the current resolution of the honorable body over which you preside, and the Senate, calling upon the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund to report what, if any, tariff of prices for transportation and freight on the several railroads of this State has been established by them or their predecessors in office, agreeably to the provisions of the act to define the duties of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, approved December 7th, 1864, I am directed by the Board to state that there is no evidence upon the records of the Board that any action was ever taken thereunder by the predecessors of the present Board. Under the Internal Improvement Act there never has been any power in the Trustees to establish any such tariff. That act, however, provided that the railroad *companies* accepting its provisions should adopt a uniform tariff for transportation of passengers and for hauling the freight in the cars of another company upon usual and equitable terms, and that no discrimination should be made by one company against the freight of passengers of another company. The Trustees were given general power by acts of February 14, 1861, and January 16, 1866, to enforce compliance with these provisions of the 6th Section of the Internal Improvement Act. Assuming, however, that the act of December 7, 1864, was intended to confer upon the Trustees

the additional power of establishing tariffs, or prescribing what the same should be, and that it was not merely a direction to enforce whatever powers they then had, it is nevertheless true that, since this act of December 7, 1864, was passed, the railroads have been sold and passed from the possession and management of the companies which held them at the time of the passage of this Act, and which had accepted the provisions of the Internal Improvement Act, and come into the possession of companies which, by their charters, are expressly given the power to fix and regulate such tariff, and the Trustees have consequently no power under said act of December, A. D. 1864, to ~~fix~~ the amount of tariff as against the present owners of said railroads.

Very respectfully,

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, March 8, 1879.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

Mr. John C. Chambers presented the following proposition from the Midland Railway, Drainage and Canal Company:

*"To the Hon. Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida:*

*"Know all men by these presents that the Midland Railway, Drainage and Canal Company, duly chartered by act of the Legislature, A. D. 1879, for and in consideration of your Hon. Board of Trustees granting to said Midland Railway, Drainage and Canal Company four-fifths of all the lands drained, reclaimed and rendered fit for settlement and made valuable, the aforesaid Midland Railway, Drainage and Canal Company hereby bind and obligate themselves to the Hon. Board of Trustees to*

drain and reclaim the whole of the basin country, the waters of which flow into Lake Okeechobee, and the country adjacent to the Caloosahatchie river, and to improve and render navigable the Caloosahatchie river from its source to Charlotte Harbor.

"Also, to drain and reclaim the Everglades and Big Cypress from inundation, which will be effected by lowering Lake Okeechobee through the Caloosahatchie river, and the works connected therewith.

"Also, to do such other work as will reclaim from overflow that portion of the country lying to the Southward of Lake Okeechobee, and known as the Everglades and Big Cypress.

"Also, to clean out, dredge and canal, so as to open up a navigable route from the Gulf at Charlotte Harbor to the Tohopekaliga Lakes, via Caloosahatchie and Kissimmee waters.

"Also, to drain and reclaim by canals, or otherwise, the portion of country situate between Lake Okeechobee and upper St. Johns river, at Lake Washington, giving an unbroken route between the St. Johns river and Charlotte Harbor, and to reclaim the lands adjacent to such line of works.

"Also, to connect the St. Johns river with the Atlantic, or Indian river, by canal and improving navigation of the upper St. Johns, and draining and reclaiming the lands of this section.

"Also, such other canals towards the Eastward Coast as may be deemed expedient for consummating this system of drainage and for purposes of navigation, and also to connect this work with the St. Johns river by canal, at such point as may be deemed expedient for advantageously carrying out this system of reclamation.

"Also, to dredge the upper St. Johns river and extend a canal to its source, and the reclamation of lands, by building locks, dykes and levees on the line of works, or adjacent thereto, for the purpose of assisting navigation and the reclamation of lands.

"Also, to make a continuous navigable route from Lake Worth to the city of St. Augustine by canal and improving navigation of the rivers and inlets between these two points, establishing thereby an inland navigable passage from the city of St. Augustine to Lake Worth.

"And in consideration of the enhanced value given to lands belonging to the Fund by this work of improvement and reclamation and increased inducement for settlement we ask your Hon. Board for four hundred thousand acres of land, to be selected from the portion of lands reclaimed by us and belonging to the State, in addition to four-fifths of all the lands drained and reclaimed."

Without taking any further action upon the foregoing proposition, the Board adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, March 14, 1879.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

The minutes of the proceedings of February 20th and 25th and March 3d and 8th were read and approved.

The petition of Mr. Arnow which was placed before the Board on the 25th February and referred to the Attorney General, was taken up for consideration. The Secretary was instructed to inform Mr. Arnow that the Trustees do not give a warranty title for the lands sold by them; that upon the failure of their title they have not in any instance done more than to refund the purchase money without interest; that in this case, the purchase money cannot be refunded until the land is re-conveyed to the Trustees; and that the Board cannot consent to compensate Mr. Arnow for the labor bestowed and expenses incurred in improving the land.

In accordance with the order made on the 25th ult., the Salesman prepared a deed re-conveying to the United States the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 25, Township 7, South, Range 19, East, which had been sold by the United States to Samuel B. Thompson before it was patented to the State, and said deed was executed by the Trustees.

The following accounts were approved and ordered paid:

*Jacksonville Union* for advertising resolution rescinding contracts for drainage with William H. Gleason and William H. Hunt, \$7.00.

*Florida Immigrant*, Subscription for February number, balance unpaid on January number, and advertisement in February No. \$96.21.

A. Doggett, for statement of principals of coupons, etc., \$3.50.

C. E. Caldwell, for map of U. S. for Salesman's Office, \$2.00.

Postage account for Salesman's Office, \$22.10.

A. N. Pacetti, Shff. St. Johns Co., expenses in procuring surveys, \$26.40.

On motion, the Treasurer was instructed to pay to George P. Raney two hundred and fifty dollars on account of professional services as Attorney and Solicitor of the Trustees.

The Secretary placed before the Board a letter from James G. Speer and John M. Bryan, on behalf of the Apopka Canal Company, accepting the terms of the resolutions adopted by the Board on the 25th ult., and requesting that the lands embraced in said resolutions be reserved from sale, and further asking that the unsurveyed lands north of Lake Apopka in Township 21, South, Range 27, East, be added to those named in said resolutions and be included in the contract.

The following resolution was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the unsurveyed lands lying north of Lake Apopka in Township Twenty-one, South, of Range Twenty-seven, East, be added to the lands authorized to be drained by the Apopka Canal Company by the resolutions adopted by this Board on the 25th February, 1879, and included in the terms, conditions, and stipulations of said resolutions as though originally named therein.

*Ordered*, That the Salesman reserve from sale the lands embraced in the resolutions authorizing the Apopka Canal Company to drain and reclaim certain swamp lands.

The following changes of entry were applied for and allowed:

Entry No. 8648 by James Weeks, from NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 36, Township Seven, South, Range Twenty-five, East, to the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 25 in the same township.

20 I. I.



Entry No. 8687, by Alexander C. Sumner, from the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 11, Township 24, South, Range 20, East, to the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 36 in the same township.

Entry No. 7697, by Henry C. Ferris, from the N $\frac{1}{2}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  and SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 15, Township 29, South, Range 18, East, to the N $\frac{1}{2}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  and NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of the same section.

The following entry was canceled and the purchase money ordered to be refunded, viz: Entry No. 8686, by N. D. Eiland and Levi Eiland, of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section Four, Township 24, South, Range 20, East.

A letter was received from James P. Sanchez, of St. Augustine, inquiring what compensation is allowed for draining State lands, and for benefits received by reason of the drainage of private lands; which was referred to the Secretary for reply.

The following resolution was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the Internal Improvement lands in Suwannee county be sold at the uniform price of \$1.25 per acre.

The Secretary laid before the Board sundry letters highly recommending Charles Pomeroy as an efficient agent to represent the interests of the State in the Land Department at Washington, and also communications from Mr. Pomeroy himself. Mr. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration, was requested to go to Washington and examine into matters relating to the State Agency in that department.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, April 25, 1879.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The following accounts were presented and approved: George P. Ramey, for traveling expenses attending courts at Jacksonville and Madison, \$17.00.

C. E. Dyke & Co., printing for Salesman's Office, \$19.50.

Postage account, Salesman's Office, \$5.00.

M. A. Williams, Coms. on Sales in February and March, \$107.98.

Hugh A. Corley, Trav. Exp. to Washington and back, \$140.00.

Hugh A. Corley, one year's subscription "Copp's Land Owner," \$2.00.

"Key of the Gulf," advertising resolutions rescinding drainage contract with Gleason and Hunt, \$12.00.

B. A. Coachman, surveying on acct. trespass, \$12.00.

C. A. Choate, advertisement in March No. of "Immigrant," \$25.00.

The Secretary laid before the Board a letter from William Hunt, dated March 18, 1879, protesting against the action of the Board on the 25th February last in the adoption of a preamble and resolution rescinding a certain contract made with the said Hunt by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund on the 4th February, 1869.

Which was read and ordered placed on file.

The Governor laid before the Board a letter from the Commissioner of the General Land Office requesting a reconveyance to the United States of the W $\frac{1}{2}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 4, Township 6, South, Range 18, East, which tract had been erroneously patented to the State as Swamp Land, the same having been entered at the U. S. Land Office by Abram Liddon September 4, 1855, prior to the issue of the patent to the State, which entry was confirmed by the Act of Congress of March 3, 1857.

*Ordered.* That the Salesman prepare a deed for the signature of the Trustees reconveying said tract of land to the United States.

The Governor laid before the Board a letter from S. I. Wailes respecting the condition of our land claims, and showing that lists have been prepared for the action of the General Land Office amounting to 3,382,358 acres.

The Board proceeded to consider the various letters received concerning trespasses on the public lands.

Letters were read from E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, concerning trespasses and seizures in Levy and Lafayette counties.

Also, from H. P. Jackson, Sheriff of Levy county, respecting trespasses and seizures and the employment of B. A. Coachman as surveyor—together with Mr. Coachman's report and suggestions for the protection of timber.

Also, a letter from James H. Stephens, of Deadman's Bay, with regard to the conduct of certain trespassers and the seizures made by the Sheriffs of Taylor and Lafayette counties.

Also, letters from Louis J. Brush, of Cedar Keys, strongly urging the adoption of a system of selling timber by stumpage, and also referring to the seizure of timber sold under certificates made by Seth Stevens, late Sheriff of Lafayette county.

Also, a letter from J. J. Johnson, Sheriff of Lafayette county, stating the seizure of a considerable quantity of cedar cut upon State lands and asking instructions respecting the manner of advertising and selling it.

The Board discussed for some time the various questions presented in the correspondence, and at last decided to postpone definite action until the arrival of Mr. Berry, the timber agent.

A letter from the Sheriff of Levy county stated that a Mr. Cannon has been cutting cedar on private lands and thinks that he has cut beyond his lines and trespassed upon the State lands and is willing to compromise and pay what is right, and the Sheriff asks instructions in the premises.

The Secretary was instructed to inform the Sheriff that he may compromise with Mr. Cannon upon the payment of stumpage at 16 cents per cubic foot upon all the cedar; but if Mr. Cannon will have the lands surveyed at his own expense so as to ascertain what was cut on private lands and what upon the State lands, he shall then only pay 16 cents per cubic foot upon the timber cut on the State lands.

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the swamp lands lying within the former Palatka Military Reserve which have recently been

patented to the State as "swamp lands" shall be offered for sale by the Salesman of this Board, at Palatka, on Wednesday, the 4th day of June next, at public outcry, for cash, at not less than the regular prices established by this Board for swamp lands; and all of said lands remaining unsold after being offered at public sale as aforesaid, shall be subject to private entry at the same prices as other swamp lands; *Provided, however*, that any actual settler upon said lands shall have the right to purchase the lands embracing his settlement and improvements, not to exceed 160 acres, at the regular price in preference to all other persons, provided such settler shall make affidavit of settlement and an application to purchase the land, and file the same with the Salesman of this Board on or before the said fourth day of June next, and shall pay for the land within ninety days thereafter. Any land so applied for and not paid for within said period of ninety days, shall thereafter be subject to private entry.

Resolved, That notice of such sale shall be given by advertisement once a week in the Palatka Herald until the day of sale, and by the distribution of hand bills.

An application was received from Alexander St. Clair Abrams to purchase the following lands at 12 cents per acre: S $\frac{1}{2}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 8, East $\frac{1}{2}$  Section 17, E $\frac{1}{2}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  and SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 19, North $\frac{1}{2}$ , NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , and NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 20, Township 19, South, Range 27, East, 1,040 acres conditioned that said lands be drained.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary inform Mr. Abrams that if he will drain said land so as to render at least 720 acres thereof fit for cultivation or pasturage, and will furnish proof of the performance of the work satisfactory to the Trustees, the Board will agree to convey to him one half of the lands so reclaimed: *Provided*, that the work be completed in 12 months, and that the lands will be reserved from sale upon notice of his acceptance of the terms aforesaid.

A letter was received from Mrs. S. A. Rembert, Executrix of William P. Rembert, deceased, asking payment of certain bonds issued by the St. Johns and Indian River Canal Commissioners and purchased by Mr. Rembert in his life time, being the same bonds referred to in Chapter No. 3156 of the Acts of the Legislature, approved March





Jesup to Lake Tohope-talaga be reserved from sale until the first day of June next to give an opportunity to the Board of Directors of said Company to agree with the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund upon the plans and specifications of the construction of the road.

The St. Johns and Lake Eustis Railway Company filed a map of their route from Lake George to Lake Eustis, and asked that the alternate sections of swamp and overflowed lands for six miles on each side of their road be reserved from sale, to be granted to them upon compliance with the provisions of the Act to Incorporate the St. Johns and Lake Eustis Railway Company approved February 20, 1879.

*Ordered*, That the odd-numbered sections of swamp lands lying within six miles of the route of the St. Johns and Lake Eustis Railway be reserved from sale until the first day of June next.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary notify Francis Vose and his solicitor of the action of the Board reserving swamp lands from sale for the benefit of the Lake Jesup, Osceola and Kissimmee River Railroad and Navigation Company, and the St. Johns and Lake Eustis Railway Company.

A letter was read from John C. Chambers, Secretary of the Midland Railway, Drainage and Canal Company, respecting the drainage of the overflowed lands in the Southern portion of the State near the Everglades, Lake Okeechobee and the Kissimmee, and claiming that one-half of the lands reclaimed would be insufficient compensation for the work of reclamation.

The Secretary was instructed to write to Mr. Chambers and say that while the Trustees are not willing to bind themselves, without further investigation, to give one half the lands reclaimed, they certainly will not entertain any proposition for any larger proportion; and if the Company cannot perform the work for one half the lands drained by them, it is useless to give the matter any further consideration.

Letters and documents were received from Samuel A. Swann respecting the sale of one or three millions of acres of land to English parties, and expressing some confidence that such sale may be made, and wishing authority issued to James Hastings, of England, to consummate the negotiation.

The Secretary was instructed to write to Mr. Swann and state that the Trustees will confirm and carry out any negotiation for the sale of lands made on the terms, price and conditions specified in the resolutions adopted April 27, 1877, appointing said Swann the agent of the Trustees for the sale of lands or land warrants, and that he may conduct any negotiation for that purpose through Mr. Hastings or any other person in whom he has confidence; and that, if this assurance is not sufficient, the Board are willing to confer with him upon this matter at any time when it may be convenient for him to appear before them.

A letter was received from Mr. C. A. Choate, the publisher of "The Florida Immigrant," calling the attention of the Board to his account for subscription to the March number of the "Immigrant," 1,000 copies and postage for distributing 800 copies thereof, amounting to \$70.50.

Ordered, That the account of C. A. Choate for 1,000 copies of the March number of the Immigrant and postage, amounting to \$70.50, be allowed and paid, and that the subscription for and monthly advertisement in said paper be discontinued.

A letter was received from S. L. Niblack, Esq., on behalf of the Gainesville, Ocala and Charlotte Harbor Railroad Company, enclosing the draft of a proposed agreement between the Trustees and said Company for the conveyance to said Company of the lands granted to them by an act passed at the late session of the Legislature, and requesting that the Trustees consider said paper and give notice to the Company of any features therein considered objectionable, and notifying the Board that the officers representing said Company would meet the Board on the 10th May for conference and action, if such time would suit the Trustees. The proposed agreement was read and the various provisions discussed, and some were objected to, and the papers were referred to the Attorney General for consideration and reply.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, May 1, 1879.

The Board met in the Treasurer's Office.

Present: Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

On motion, it was *Ordered*, That two hundred dollars be paid to Judge David S. Walker on account of professional services as Attorney of the Board.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: C. DREW, President pro tem.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, May 2d, 1879.

The Board met in the office of the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

Present: Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

Mr. Gwynn was chosen President *pro tem*.

The Attorney General reported that he had employed P. W. White, Esq., as associate counsel in the suit against the Trustees and others by F. Schutte and others in the U. S. Circuit Court; which was approved by the Board.

On motion, it was *Ordered*, That one hundred dollars be paid to P. W. White, Esq., on account of professional services as Solicitor in the case of Schutte et al. vs. The Trustees I. I. Fund et al.

The Secretary laid before the Board a letter from E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, respecting trespasses and the seizure of cedar in Lafayette county; and also a letter from James H. Stephens of Lafayette county upon the same matters and with respect to the care and protection of timber after seizure.

The Board proceeded to the consideration of the general question of authorizing the sale of cedar growing upon public lands upon the payment of stumpage, and also the special cases reported by Mr. Berry and the Sher-

iffs. It was decided to pos'pone the consideration of the "stumpage" question to another meeting.

The following preamble and resolution were unanimously adopted:

*Whereas*, information has been received that a large quantity of cedar timber has been cut upon the lands of the Internal Improvement Fund in Taylor, Lafayette, Levy and other counties, and seized by the Sheriffs of said counties, much of which, there is reason to suppose, was cut by parties under the impression that their action would be legalized, and without any criminal intent, and some of which was purchased by parties on the faith of certificates issued by Seth Stevens, late Sheriff of Lafayette county, and *ex-officio* Timber Agent of the State;

Resolved, That E. J. Berry, the Agent of the Board, be and he is hereby authorized to make such arrangements as in his judgment may be best for the interests of the Fund with the claimants or cutters of such cedar; and, upon the payment to said Berry of the amounts agreed upon with him; he shall give a receipt therefor and release the timber; and the said Berry shall, from the moneys received from such cedar timber pay the expenses of guarding and other incidental expenses incurred in the protection of the timber after seizure, and shall pay to the Sheriffs one fourth of the net proceeds, and account to the Treasurer of the Internal Improvement Fund for the remainder.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:           WALTER GWYNN, President *pro tem*.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, May 6, 1879.

The Board met in the office of the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

Present;   Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
              Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
              George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
              Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands  
                                  and Immigration.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

*Resolved*, That the Board will employ two guides to

accompany the Agents of the General Land Office in the examination of the Swamp Land Selections in South Florida, said guides to receive \$2.50 a day and their provisions and necessary transportation; and three hundred dollars be paid over to Mr. S. I. Wailes to be appropriated for that purpose, so far as necessary.

The Board then adjourned.

C. DREW,  
President *pro tem*.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, May 8, 1879.

The Board met in the Attorney General's Office.

Present: Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands  
& Immigration.

The following resolution adopted on the 25th ult. by the Directors of the Florida Central Railroad Company, was placed before the Board and read:

*Resolved*, (Without admitting that this Company has any interest in the matter), That this Company is willing that the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund shall receive from the Executors of E. Houston Five Thousand (\$5,000) dollars in compromise of the suit pending in Savannah, Ga., by the Trustees against the said Executors to recover an amount of money in the said Executors' hands arising from the sale of the Florida, Atlantic and Gulf Central Railroad.

Patrick Houston, one of the Executors of the last will and testament of Edward Houston, appeared before the Board and tendered the payment of five thousand dollars in full settlement for the balance due by said Edward Houston on account of moneys placed in his hands by the Trustees arising from the sale of the Florida, Atlantic and Gulf Central Railroad.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

*Resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida*, That this Board will receive



the sum of five thousand dollars from the Executors of the last will and Testament of Edward Houstoun in full settlement of the balance due by said Houstoun on account of the moneys placed in his hands arising from the sale of the Florida, Atlantic and Gulf Central Railroad, and that on the payment of said amount by the said Executors to the Treasurer of this Board, Walter Gwynn, the suit instituted against said Executors in the United States Circuit Court at Savannah, Georgia, be dismissed, the said Executors to pay the costs of said suit, and the Attorney's fees of the Solicitor of this Board, the Hon. R. E. Lester, over and above the one hundred dollars retainer paid said Solicitor by this Board; and that such payments shall stand as a full settlement of the claim of the Board against the said Houstoun, his Executors or estate.

The Board then adjourned.

C. DREW,  
President *pro tem*.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, May 10, 1879.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The Salesman presented a relinquishment to the United States of the W $\frac{1}{2}$  of SE  $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 4, Township 6, South, Range 18, East, which had been prepared as instructed by the Board on the 25th April, and said relinquishment was executed by the Trustees.

On motion, Governor Drew was allowed one hundred and fifty dollars for his traveling expenses to Washington in March and April on business of the Fund, and the Treasurer was instructed to pay the amount.

The account of Hugh A. Corley for traveling expenses to Jacksonville to consult with agents for the examination of Swamp Selections, and for telegraphing, amounting to \$10.40 was allowed and ordered paid.

The question of "stumpage" in selling cedar was taken up for consideration, and after some discussion, was again postponed.

S. L. Niblack, Esq., and Mr. George B. Phinney appeared before the Board on behalf of the Gainesville, Ocala and Charlotte Harbor Railroad Company, and some time was spent in considering the means to be taken to enable said Company to obtain the benefit of the land grant made to them at the last session of the Legislature subject to the liens existing thereon.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW.  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, May 17, 1879.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

Mr. Corley placed before the Board a letter from the Attorney General written at Jacksonville, and an accompanying copy of a petition filed in the U. S. Court at Jacksonville on behalf of the complainants in the suit of Francis Vose et al. vs. The Trustees I. I. Fund et al. praying for an order restraining the Trustees from reserving lands from sale under the Acts passed by the Legislature at its last session.

Dr. J. J. Harris, President of the Lake Jesup, Osceola and Kissimmee River Railroad and Navigation Company appeared before the Board, and presented the resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of said Company at a special meeting held on the 12th inst., in which they propose the following specifications of the construction

of their road, for the consideration of this Board, to-wit:

1st—The line of road, for sixty feet from the centre, shall be cleared of all standing timber.

2d—The grading shall be for a single track, except at depots, turn outs and similar places, where it shall be wider if necessary; with a road bed twelve (12) feet wide, in cuttings, with ditches two (2) feet in depth below grade, and of such width as may be necessary to secure proper drainage, and six (6) feet on embankments at the grade line, with slopes of one and a half ( $1\frac{1}{2}$ ) foot to one foot rise. All embankments and excavations shall be so constructed as to secure perfect drainage and the avoidance of standing water near the cross-ties.

3d—All cross-ties shall be delivered on the line of the road, and be of heart-pine, cypress, white, yellow, post, live or Spanish oak, white or red cedar, and not less than six (6) feet long, with not less than six (6) inches face, and six (6) inches in thickness; and shall be well and carefully bedded and laid within two and one half ( $2\frac{1}{2}$ ) feet from centre to centre.

4th—At all water-ways, sufficient space shall be left for the unobstructed passage of water; and at all points on the line of road, where it is practicable, side ditches shall be cut to carry off the surface water.

5th—In the crossing of all streams, the bridges shall be constructed according to plans approved by the State Engineer.

6th—The gauge of the road shall be three (3) feet.

7th—The rail used shall weigh not less than twenty (20) pounds per lineal yard, and be of the best quality of steel or iron, and well fastened to the cross-ties with the best quality of spikes and plates; *Provided*, That, if the Company prefer, the Fish-bar and fastenings may be used.

8th—The entire equipment shall be first-class, and shall at all times be sufficient for the prompt transportation of all passengers and freight ordinarily offering.

9th—The grade on no portion of the route shall exceed forty-five (45) feet per mile, and no single curve adopted exceeding four (4) degrees of curvature.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

*Resolved*, That the specifications of construction pro-

posed by the Lake Jesup, Osceola and Kissimmee River Railroad and Navigation Company be approved by this Board, but that the time of reservation from market of the lands adjacent the road, under the order of the Board of April 26, be not extended until the Board is advised of the decision of the U. S. Court upon the petition filed on behalf of Mr. Vose to restrain the Trustees from reserving lands from sale under the acts of the last Legislature.

The Board then adjourned.

C. DREW,  
President pro tem.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

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Jacksonville, Florida, May 21, 1879

The Board met at the Folsom House in the City of Jacksonville

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

This meeting was called for the purpose of consulting with regard to the proper steps to be taken on behalf of the Trustees in the suits now being argued before Justice Bradley in the U. S. Circuit Court at Jacksonville, in which is involved the vendors' lien held by the Trustees against the Jacksonville, Pensacola and Mobile Railroad for the unpaid purchase money on the sales of the Pensacola and Mobile Railroad for the unpaid purchase money on the sales of the Pensacola and Georgia Railroad and the Tallahassee Railroad made March 20, 1869, being the suits instituted by the Western Division of the Western North Carolina Railroad Company, and by J. Fred Schutte et al. (or the Dutch Bondholders) against the Railroad Companies and all parties having or claiming any interest in the roads.

Gen. Henry R. Jackson, representing a large majority of the Pensacola and Georgia and Tallahassee Railroad Bondholders, appeared before the Board and urged the acceptance of a decree upon the basis of a certain "*memorandum-plan*" agreed upon by the Dutch Bondholders and the holders of the Railroad bonds represented by him, under which, if the road should be sold for the payment of the Dutch Bondholders, their bonds should be accepted as cash in the purchase of the road, and if purchased by the Dutch Bondholders at such sale, the holders of the Pensacola and Georgia and Tallahassee Railroad bonds accepting the "*memorandum-plan*" should receive for their bonds and interest new bonds to be issued constituting a first mortgage lien upon the road, leaving the rights and equities undecided with respect to the holders of said railroad bonds who should refuse to accept the "*memorandum-plan*."

Gov. D. S. Walker, representing a minority of the Pensacola and Georgia and Tallahassee Railroad Bondholders, also appeared before the Board, and demanded that the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund should insist upon a decree establishing the vendors' lien held by the Trustees for the unpaid purchase money on said roads, and thereby secure the full payment of said Railroad bonds and interest.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

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Jacksonville, Florida, May 23, 1879.

The Board again met at the Folsom House.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

Gen. Henry R. Jackson, representing a majority of the Pensacola and Georgia and Tallahassee Railroad Bond-



holders, and C. D. Willard, Esq., representing the Dutch Bondholders, appeared before the Board.

Gen. Jackson again urged the Trustees to consent to a decree based upon the "*memorandum-plan*," and contended that it was the duty of the Trustees to comply with the wishes of a majority of the Bondholders in matters relating to the Trust held for their benefit, even though an adjudication of the rights of the minority of said Bondholders should be thereby postponed.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Jacksonville, Florida, May 27, 1879.

The Board again met at the Folsom House.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands  
and Immigration.

Mr. Raney stated that an agreement had been entered into with the Solicitors of the Dutch Bondholders that a decree should be made in the suits now pending recognizing the priority of the vendors' lien on the railroads now held by the Trustees, but that they had not agreed upon the specific manner in which such lien should be enforced, and that it was understood that each party should present to the Court the form of a decree to express what each desired to have embodied therein, and leave the Court to decide between them. Mr. Raney submitted for the approval of the Board a draft of the decree which he had prepared.

The Trustees then separated, but, later in the day and before any action had been taken upon the matters considered in the morning, the Board re-assembled at the request of Hon. D. L. Yulee who expressed his disap-

proval of any agreement or compromise with the Dutch Bondholders and gave his opinion and advice that the Trustees should insist upon a decree for a cash sale of the road for the payment of the balance of purchase money due the Trustees.

The result was that no special agreement was made, and the Dutch Bondholders consented to acknowledge the priority of the vendors' lien, leaving the Court to fix the terms of the decree.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, June 11, 1879.

The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor,  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The minutes of the proceedings of April 26, May 1, 2, 6, 8, 10, 17, 21, 23, and 27 were read and approved.

The Board proceeded to the consideration of our application on behalf of the Gainesville, Ocala and Charlotte Harbor Railroad Company for some action by the Trustees towards the consummation of an arrangement between the Trustees and said Company and the creditors of the Internal Improvement Fund for the release of the lands from the indebtedness against the Fund, so as to enable said Company to obtain the benefit of the grant of lands made in the fifth Section of "An act to grant certain lands to the Gainesville, Ocala and Charlotte Harbor Railroad Company," approved March 4, 1879.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

*Be it Resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida, That this Board will*

agree to any sale to the Gainesville, Ocala and Charlotte Harbor Railroad Company of the lands mentioned in the fifth section of the act approved March 4, 1879, entitled "An act to grant certain lands to the Gainesville, Ocala and Charlotte Harbor Railroad Company," that may be agreed upon between said Company and the creditors of this Fund: provided, however, that the price of such lands shall not be under ten cents per acre: and provided further, that no lands shall vest in said Company before they shall be paid for, nor shall any part of said lands be reserved from sale for a longer period than sixty days, nor shall more land be reserved at any one time from sale before payment therefor than one hundred thousand acres: And provided, further, that no land shall be reserved from sale except as sections of ten consecutive miles of railroad are graded and furnished with cross-ties, as provided in said Act: and provided further, that for every forty miles of road so graded and furnished with cross-ties, ten miles shall be fully completed, ironed, equipped and in actual operation.

*Be it further Resolved*, That this resolution is not to be taken as a precedent as to any other Company in so far as the minimum price is concerned.

The Secretary laid before the Board the following order made by the United States Circuit Court:

U. S. Circuit Court, Northern District of Florida.

|                                                  |   |            |
|--------------------------------------------------|---|------------|
| Francis Vose                                     | } | In Equity. |
| vs.                                              |   |            |
| Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund et al. |   |            |

This cause coming on to be heard on petition of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, defendants above named, for an order modifying the orders and decrees hereinbefore made in this cause so as to permit the Trustees to sell the lands conveyed by them to the Board of Commissioners of the St. Johns and Indian River Canal, and re-conveyed by James G. Speer and James O. DeVall for and on behalf of said Commissioners to said Trustees by deed dated March 25th, 1863, and to sell lands and apply the proceeds as provided by an act entitled "An Act to direct the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida to sell the

lands recovered to them by the Commissioners of the St. Johns and Indian River Canal, and with the proceeds thereof to pay certain bonds and all other lawful claims and demands existing and outstanding against said Commissioners," approved March 11th, 1879, and no objection being made thereto:

Now, Therefore, *It is ordered and adjudged*, That all orders and decrees and injunctions heretofore made or issued in this cause be and the same are hereby modified and vacated in so far as they interfere with or prevent the Trustees aforesaid or their successors from selling said lands and out of the proceeds thereof paying and settling all lawful claims and demands existing and outstanding against the Board of Commissioners aforesaid and especially the bonds issued by the said Commissioners and interest thereon belonging to the estate of the late William P. Rembert, and in so far as the said orders and decrees or injunctions prohibit the said Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund from receiving in payment for said lands said bonds and coupons or any claims which they, the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, may deem proper to be paid under the said Act.

Done, ordered and adjudged in open Court at Jacksonville, in said District on this the 28th day of May, A. D. 1879.

JOSEPH BRADLEY, Circuit Justice.

*Ordered*, That the unsold lands re-conveyed to the Trustees by the Commissioners of the St. Johns and Indian River Canal March 25, 1863, be sold for the payment of the lawful claims and demands existing and outstanding against said Commissioners, and that the moneys received from the sale of any of said lands shall be applied to the payment of the past due coupons of the bonds issued by the said Commissioners belonging to the estate of the late William P. Rembert, with interest on said past-due coupons, and that said bonds and past due coupons shall be receivable in payment for any of said lands.

The Governor laid before the Board a letter from the Commissioner of the General Land Office requesting a reconveyance to the United States of the E $\frac{1}{2}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , or E $\frac{1}{2}$  of Lot No. 3, Sec. 29, T. 3, S. R. 11, E., which was located by James M. Baker with a Military Bounty Land

Warrant January 23, 1855, which located was confirmed by the Act of Congress of March 2d, 1855, but which said tract was subsequently patented to the State of Florida as swamp land.

The Salesman having reported that said tract was unsold, it was *Ordered*, that the same be re-conveyed to the United States as requested by the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

And a deed of re-conveyance having been prepared was executed by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund.

The time limited for the reservation of lands for the benefit of the Lake Jesup, Osceola and Kissimmee River Railroad and Navigation Company, and the St. Johns and Lake Eustis Railway Company having expired, and no action having been taken by the U. S. Court to restrain the Trustees from reserving lands from sale as asked for in the petition of Mr. Vose, it was *Ordered*, That the reservations heretofore made be continued until the decision of the Court is made respecting the same, and until the C. Eaton the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 1. T. 21, S., R. 31, E., lying within the reserved limits of the Lake Jesup, Osceola and Kissimmee River Railroad, provided the Railroad further order of this Board in the premises.

*Ordered*, That the Salesman be authorized to sell to J. road Company shall first consent to such sale.

The Salesman reported that in compliance with the resolution of April 25, he proceeded to Palatka and on the 4th instant offered for sale the swamp lands recently patented to the State lying within and near to the former Palatka Military Reserve.

The following accounts were presented and approved:

W. A. C. Benbow, Sheriff of Santa Rosa county, for the expenses of seizure and care of 394 logs of timber, surveying and the costs of court upon claim interposed by Marquis & Co., decided against the Trustees and appeal taken, \$188.99.

Walter Gwynn, traveling expenses and board in Jacksonville during the trial of railroad cases, \$15.00.

George P. Raney, traveling expenses and board of self and Judge P. W. White in attendance upon the U. S. Court in Jacksonville in May, \$82.00.



Hugh A. Corley, traveling expenses and board in Jacksonville during trial of Railroad cases; traveling expenses to Palatka and return offering lands for sale; and telegraphing, \$33.85.

M. A. Williams, Commissions on sales April and May, \$94.69.

Daily and Weekly Union for printing brief in Railroad suits for the Solicitor of the Trustees, \$24.00.

C. A. Bryan, Jr., binding for Salesman's office, \$6.50.

Henry Wells, compensation for selecting 29,509.75 acres of swamp lands patented in Patent No. 12, St. Augustine (now Gainesville) Land District at 8 mills per acre, \$236.08.

The Secretary laid before the Board several letters from Mr. E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, detailing his operations in Levy, Lafayette and Taylor counties, and recommending the adoption by the Board of a system of stumpage. Mr. Berry himself appeared before the Board, and the question of selling timber by stumpage was discussed by the Trustees and also by the members of the Board of Education who were invited to be present and give their opinion upon the policy of the proposed change in the existing regulations. After some time spent in discussion it was unanimously

*Ordered*, That from and after this date, this Board will sell timber growing upon any of the lands belonging to the Internal Improvement Fund at the following rates:

Cedar at 10 cents per cubic foot.

Cypress Logs at 50 cents per M Sup. feet.

Pine Logs at 50 cents per M Sup. feet.

Palmetto Logs at 10 cents per log.

Cypress Shingles at 50 cents per M Shingles.

Juniper Shingles at 50 cents per M. Shingles.

But that no cedar, other than dead cedar, will be sold which will not square eight inches.

*Ordered*, That any citizen of the State wishing to cut timber upon any of said lands shall give notice to the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration, specifying as near as may be the locality where he intends to cut, and what kind of timber, and where he intends to deliver the same, or from what point on the coast, rivers or creeks, he intends to raft or ship the timber; and the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration shall give to such per-

son a permit or authority to cut such timber and remove or ship the same upon payment therefor to any timber agent of this Board.

*Ordered*, That special Timber Agents shall be appointed at Pensacola, Milton, Choctawhatchie Bay, Cedar Keys, Bay Port and Tampa, and at such other points as may be necessary, and such agents shall be authorized to receive and give acquittances for the moneys paid for timber by any person cutting the same under the permit or authority of the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration; and said agents shall from time to time forward to the Treasurer of this Board the amounts received for timber, deducting their commissions thereon, with a statement of the names of parties by whom the timber was cut, the kind of timber and the place where cut.

*Ordered*, That the Agent at Cedar Keys shall be allowed ten per cent of all collections made by him as his commissions therein, and the agents at other places shall be allowed a commission of twenty per cent upon all moneys so collected by them.

*Ordered*, That E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, be authorized to settle with all parties who have heretofore cut timber on the public lands, whether under prosecution therefor or not.

The Secretary laid before the Board a communication from John C. Chambers on behalf of the Midland Railroad, Drainage and Canal Company, claiming that the Board had agreed to give to said Company one half of the lands that might be drained by them under their Act of Incorporation, and accepting the same.

The Secretary was instructed to write to Mr. Chambers that the Board will grant to said Company one half of the lands they may reclaim within the limits defined in the Act incorporating said Company under the terms, limitations and conditions mentioned in said Act.

Mr. M. A. Williams having sold 700 acres of swamp land to Mr. Utley J. White requested that the Board would permit him to pay the full amount of the purchase money therefor in coupon certificates instead of requiring the payment of twenty per cent in cash.

Which request was granted, and the Treasurer was authorized to receive full payment for said land in coupon certificates.

A letter was received from the Bureau of Immigration calling attention to Chapter 3151 of the Laws of Florida appropriating \$5,000 a year for immigration purposes, said moneys to be derived from any moneys arising from the sales of State lands belonging to the Internal Improvement Fund, or out of any money in the Treasury of the State not otherwise appropriated, and requesting the Board to place within the control of the Bureau of Immigration the amount appropriated for the present year.

Which letter was referred to the Attorney General with the request that he try to procure from the U. S. Court an order permitting the Trustees to appropriate the amount named in the Statute referred to for the purposes indicated in said Act.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, June 12, 1879.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

Dr. John Westcott appeared before the Board on behalf of the St. Johns Railway Company, and called attention to the fact that several thousand acres of swamp lands which were granted to said Company by the act of 1858 has since been sold by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, constituting a claim against the Fund in favor of said Company which should be adjusted.

Mr. Raney offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved.* That this Board recognize the claim of the St. Johns Railway Company on account of sales made by the Board of Swamp and Overflowed lands granted to said Company by the Legislature of Florida under the act incorporating said Company, but this Board is not now prepared to decide the amount of said claim or the mode

of settlement of the same, it being however understood that the Company is willing to be reimbursed either in other lands or in money, and, upon settlement, to make quit-claim deeds to this Board of the lands so sold, or to the purchasers of the same or their assigns or legal representatives.

Mr. Corley offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the compensation of the following named persons be and is hereby fixed at the following rate for professional services in the following cases, to wit: To David S. Walker, Sr., for services in the cases of H. Bisbee, Jr. vs. George F. Drew, Governor, and the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund et al, in Leon Circuit Court, and the case of the Western Division of the Western North Carolina Railroad Company vs. the Jacksonville, Pensacola and Mobile Railroad Company and the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund et al. in the U. S. Circuit Court and the case of D. P. Holland vs. the Trustees I. I. Fund et al. in Duval Circuit Court and the case of J. Fred Schutte et al. vs. the Jacksonville, Pensacola and Mobile Railroad Company and the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund et al. in the U. S. Circuit Court, the sum of thirty-six hundred dollars; and to George P. Raney, in the same cases, the sum of seven thousand two hundred dollars; and to P. W. White, in the last named case, twelve hundred dollars.

*Resolved, further*, That the same be paid by the Treasurer of this Board out of any moneys in his hands, or that may come into his hands, specially applicable to the payment for such services.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, June 13, 1879.

The Board met in the Comptroller's Office.

Present: Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The following bill was presented and approved:

To G. H. Johnson for services as Surveyor in examining lands trespassed upon in Manatee County, \$20.00.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: C. DREW, President pro tem.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, June 25, 1879.

The Board met in the office of the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

Present: Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The Commissioner of Lands and Immigration stated to the Board that he has just returned from Jacksonville where he had gone to confer with the Commissioners appointed by the General Land Office to examine the Swamp Land Selections in the Southern portion of the State; that said commissioners had examined a large quantity of the lands in the western portion of South Florida, but that in more than forty townships they had not been able to make a full examination for the want of proper guides to point out the lands; that these Commissioners expressed the opinion that the State should furnish every facility and assistance to enable them to complete their investigation and make a full report; that they consented to return to South Florida and continue their examination if the State would send with them a competent surveyor to assist them and to represent the State and pay the necessary traveling expenses of the commission; that M. A. Williams had consented to accompany them provided his necessary expenses are paid.

Under the circumstances, and in view of the great importance to the State in having the earliest adjustment of the swamp land claim, it was

Ordered, That this Board will pay the traveling expenses of the Agents of the General Land Office and of Mr. M. A. Williams in continuing the examination of the swamp lands in South Florida selected for the State but not yet patented.



Mr. James M. Sparkman applied for the cancellation of Entry No. 5338 made by him November 25, 1868, upon Lots Nos. 1 & 8, Section 4, Township 9, South, Range 21, East, which said Lots had previously been sold to Edward N. Dickerson, and the said Sparkman having returned his deed and reconveyed the lands to the Trustees, *It was Ordered*, That said entry be cancelled and the purchase money paid therefor (\$37) be refunded.

The Board having appointed the following named persons on the 9th instant to be the Special Agents of the Board to protect the lands of the fund from trespass and to collect moneys for timber cut upon said lands, and no note of such appointments having been made upon the minutes, it was ordered that the Secretary record them upon the record of this meeting, as follows:

W. H. Hutchinson at Pensacola.

W. A. C. Benbow at Milton.

William Miller at Choctawhatchie Bay.

Louis J. Brush, at Cedar Keys.

Cyprian T. Jenkins at Bay Port.

D. Isaac Craft at Tampa.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: C. DREW, President pro tem.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, July 3, 1879.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The Governor laid before the Board a letter from John C. Chambers, President of the Midland Railway, Drainage and Canal Company, with reference to some arrangement between the Trustees and said Company for drainage; which was read and referred to the Secretary for reply.

The following accounts were presented and approved:

Floridian Office, for printing for Salesman's office, \$37.00.

M. A. Williams, for comms. on sales in June, \$110.00.

Hugh A. Corley, expenses 2 trips to Jacksonville, Express charges and Stationery, \$14.15.

George F. Drew, Expenses attending U. S. Court in Jacksonville and telegraphing, \$15.00.

C. C. Yonge, professional services in the case of Marquis & Co. v. The Sheriff of Santa Rosa Co., involving timber cut on State lands, \$50.00.

E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, for expenses traveling and surveying from Sept. 15, 1878 to June 15, 1879, \$564.27.

The Secretary laid before the Board the account of E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, for moneys received by him for timber cut upon State lands, and payments made for protecting same and for the Sheriff's commissions, showing a balance due the Fund of \$1,474.76; which account was approved and referred to the Treasurer.

Ordered, That the Secretary request Mr. E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, to send in his account for surveying and expenses monthly, whenever practicable.

The Secretary laid before the Board an application from John A. Macdonald for a deed to his wife, Mary A. Macdonald, for Lot No. 2, Section 29, T. 19, S., R. 30, E., purchased by her in 1874 through Williams, Swann and Corley, but the entry whereof does not appear upon the books and plats; which was referred to the Salesman and Treasurer to ascertain whether said land was paid for by Mrs. Macdonald.

The U. S. Circuit Court having made an order that the Treasurer invest the moneys in his hands belonging to the Sinking Fund of the Florida Atlantic and Gulf Central Railroad, amounting to five thousand dollars, the Treasurer was instructed to make a temporary investment in bonds of the State of Florida until it can be ascertained at what price the bonds of the Florida, Atlantic and Gulf Central Railroad Company can be purchased.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, July 19th, 1879.

The Board met in the Attorney General's Office.

Present: Walter Gwynn, Treasurer

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

The Comptroller acted as President pro tem.

The Attorney General acted as Secretary pro tem.

The accounts of Charles H. Foster, Clerk of the Supreme Court, for five 45-100 dollars and of Alexander Mosely, Sheriff of said Court, in the case of W. A. C. Benbow vs. Marquis & Co., were approved and ordered paid, the account of Mosely, Sheriff, being Three 72-100 dollars said case being a suit of replevin growing out of trespass on the public lands.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: C. DREW, President pro tem.

GEO. P. RANEY, Secretary pro tem.

Tallahassee, Florida, Aug. 2d, 1879.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

Mr. Barton D. Jones, one of the Agents appointed by the Department of the Interior at Washington to investigate the claim of the State of Florida for indemnity for lands selected for the State as "Swamp Lands" and sold by the United States after the 28th September, 1850, and prior to March 3, 1857, appeared before the Board, and read the instructions from the Department of the Interior respecting the manner of examining said lands and obtaining evidence regarding their swampy character.

The Governor laid before the Board a letter from James M. Baker, Esq., asking a payment on account of professional services in the suit of Vose vs. The Trustees.

*Ordered*, That one hundred dollars be paid to Mr. Baker on account of said services.

The following accounts were presented & approved.

For Postage for Salesman's Office.....\$22.37  
 E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, for expenses from June  
 15, to August 1, 1879.....\$91.50

Application was received from James Masters for the cancellation of Entry No. 7183 made Nov. 10, 1875, which entry was illegal for the reason that the lands embraced therein, to wit: the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 27, T. 8, S., R. 28, E., was not the property of the Internal Improvement Fund, and said application being accompanied with a deed of relinquishment it was ordered that said entry be cancelled, and that the Treasurer refund to Mr. Masters forty dollars the amount paid by him for the purchase of said tract.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
 President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, Aug. 8, 1879.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew Governor.  
 Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
 Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

*Resolved*, That the President of the Board of Trustees be and he is hereby authorized to appoint L. B. Wombwell Agent to look into and examine all the accounts and vouchers filed by Messrs. A. B. Hawkins and Sherman Conant, as Receivers of the Jacksonville, Pensacola and Mobile Railroad, in the office of Philip Walter, Clerk of the Circuit and District Courts of the United States for the Northern District of Florida, and to make a report of the said examination to the Board of Trustees, and the said Wombwell is authorized to call in to his assistance any person familiar with Railroad business.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
 President.

Attest:

Secretary pro tem.

Tallahassee, Florida, Aug. 9, 1879.

The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund met in the Executive Office, August 9, 1879.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

Gen. Ankeny, Mr. E. A. Protois, and Mr. B. D. Jones, Agents appointed by the Department of the Interior, to examine and report upon the Lands selected for the State of Florida as "Swamp Lands" under the Act of Congress of September 28, 1850, and sold by the United States after the passage of that Act and prior to March 3, 1857, and for which the State claims indemnity, appeared before the Board and stated their readiness to commence the work of investigation in a few days. Some time was spent in considering the best manner of prosecuting the examination and getting the testimony to establish the character of the lands. The Trustees agreed that they would employ a surveyor and chainbearers to accompany each of said Agents, and that the testimony might be procured and taken from time to time as the examination proceeded without requiring any specified notice of time and place. The Board selected for surveyors M. A. Williams, and Charles F. Hopkins of Jacksonville and H. S. Duval of Gadsden County.

The Secretary placed before the Board the protest of certain citizens of Levy County against the appointment of Louis J. Brush as Special Agent at Cedar Keys for the collection of stumpage and claiming that the Sheriff, Mr. Jackson, is fairly entitled to the appointment. This protest is signed by W. J. Jones, State Senator, W. W. Clyatt, member of the Assembly, and Messrs. N. R. Carter, J. Ira Gore, S. Quincey, James M. Barco and L. Z. Lewis, members of the Democratic Executive Committee of Levy County.

Also, a communication from Louis J. Brush in which he claims that an agent should be appointed at Cedar Keys to receive the cedar and other timber cut in Taylor, Lafayette, Levy and Hernando counties, and collect the stumpage thereon, and that to appoint the Sheriffs in each county to collect the stumpage therein would be



against the interest of the Fund and the convenience of the cutters and purchasers of timber.

Also, a communication from W. J. Jones, enclosing a petition from 175 citizens of Levy county asking that H. P. Jackson, the Sheriff of that county, be authorized to act as Agent of the Board to collect stumpage.

No motion was made to change the former action of the Board in the matter of appointing Special Agents for the collection of stumpage.

The Secretary laid before the Board a letter from C. T. Jenkins expressing his willingness to accept the Agency at Bay Port for the collection of stumpage, provided he is also authorized to collect what is due from trespassers upon lands in Hernando county committed before the adoption of the Stumpage system.

On motion, it was ordered, That C. T. Jenkins be authorized to prosecute all trespassers upon the lands belonging to the Internal Improvement Fund in Hernando county; and he is further authorized to make such arrangements with persons who have unlawfully cut the timber upon said lands as in his judgment may be best for the interests of the fund, and receive payment of such amount as may be agreed upon, and upon such payment to give a full release or acquittance therefor.

Mr. J. H. Lee, of Orange county, was appointed Special Agent for the collection of stumpage on timber cut in the vicinity of Lakes Jesup and Harney, Fort Christmas and Econlockhatchie River.

Letters were received on behalf of Dr. A. E. Hodges, C. Q. Nevitt and T. J. Cook, asking that permits be not given to other parties to cut timber in the Districts respectively embraced in the permits granted to them.

The Secretary was instructed to inform these persons that the Board is unwilling to grant the exclusive privilege of cutting timber in any district to any one or more persons.

The following bills were presented and approved:

A. N. Pacetti, Sheriff of St. Johns County, for examining and surveying Cedar Camp in T. 8, S.,

|                                                   |         |
|---------------------------------------------------|---------|
| R. 28, E.....                                     | \$17.60 |
| The same for similar services in T. 6, R. 28..... | 25.60   |

George R. Frisbee, County Surveyor, for surveying  
lands in Clay County to investigate trespass.... 18.20  
R. F. Taylor, Attorney, for profession services  
assisting E. J. Berry, Timber Agent..... 50.00  
The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, August 14, 1879.

The Board met in the Comptroller's Office.

Present: Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands &  
Immigration.

A. N. Pacetti, of St. Augustine, was appointed the  
Special Agent of the Board for the collection of stump-  
age for timber cut in St. Johns County.

The Board then adjourned.

C. DREW,  
President pro tem.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary,

Tallahassee, Florida, August 19, 1879.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands &  
Immigration.

Messrs. Protois, Ankeny and Jones, the Agents of the  
U. S. Land Department for the investigation of the  
Swamp land claims of the State, and Mr. I. Coryell rep-  
resenting Mr. S. I. Wailes, the State Agent for the pros-

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ecution of said claims, were present with the Board, and a discussion was had as to the most convenient and economical plan of proceeding to the examination of the lands and the taking of testimony. No official action was taken by the Board, it being left to said Agents and Mr. Coryell to make arrangements satisfactory to all parties.

The Secretary laid before the Board a letter from Mr. Berry, the Timber Agent, stating the present low price of shingles and recommending that the stumpage price thereof be reduced to twenty-five cents per thousand: Whereupon, it was

*Ordered*, That the price for getting shingles from the lands belonging to the fund be reduced from fifty cents to twenty-five cents per thousand.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

Hugh A. Corley,  
Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, August 28, 1879.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

John C. Chambers, President of the Midland Railway, Drainage and Canal Company, appeared before the Board for the purpose of entering into a contract with the Trustees, for the drainage of the overflowed lands mentioned in the Act incorporating said Company (Chapter 3174 of the Laws of Florida). The matter was referred to Mr. Corley and Mr. Chambers to draw up a contract and present it to-morrow for the action of the Board.

The Secretary laid before the Board a communication from 62 citizens of the cedar belt on the Gulf Coast, approving the action of the Board in relation to stumpage and the appointment of Special Agents to collect it. Which was read and placed on file.

The Secretary laid before the Board a communication from James H. Stephens, of Deadman's Bay, complaining of regulations requiring cedar cut in that neighborhood to be delivered at Cedar Keys. Which was read and referred to the Secretary for reply.

John Theobald was appointed Special Agent for the collection of stumpage in Franklin County.

A letter was received from J. W. C. Parker inquiring whether the tops and branches of cedar, after the logs had been gotten out, might be used by the cutter for domestic purposes.

The Secretary was instructed to inform Mr. Parker that the Board does not object to such use.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, August 20, 1879.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The following accounts were presented and approved:

W. U. Telegraph Company, for telegraphing .....\$ 2.05

M. A. Williams, Coms. on sales in July ..... 24.12

The Board resumed the consideration of the proposition of the Midland Railway, Drainage and Canal Company for a contract to reclaim the swamp lands specified in the Act of the Legislature incorporating said Company, and the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

*Whereas*, The Midland Railway, Drainage and Canal Company was created a body corporate by an act of the Legislature of Florida approved March 5, 1879, and by said Act was authorized to drain and reclaim certain public lands in the State of Florida: *And Whereas*, Said

Company has notified the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of said State of its intention to effect the drainage and reclamation of the following described lands, provided the said Trustees will grant to it a proportion of said lands sufficient to justify it in the performance of the work, to wit:

1. The drainage and reclamation of the adjacent public lands, and the improvement of navigation on the Kissimmee river, by the construction of a navigable and permanent channel from the Southern terminus of its railway to Lake Okeechobee.

2. The drainage and reclamation of the adjacent public lands and the opening of a navigable route by the construction of a canal from Lake Okeechobee to the head of navigation on the Caloosahatchie river.

3. The drainage and reclamation of the adjacent public lands and the improvement of navigation on the Caloosahatchie river, by the construction of a navigable and permanent channel from the above mentioned canal to Charlotte Harbor on the Gulf Coast.

4. The drainage and reclamation of the adjacent public lands and the opening of a navigable route by the construction of a canal from Lake Okeechobee to such point on the Indian river, the Atlantic Coast or Lake Worth as may be deemed most accessible and expedient.

5. The drainage and reclamation of the adjacent public lands and the opening of a navigable route by the construction of a canal from the head of navigation on the Kissimmee river to the waters of the St. Johns river, and the improvement of the channel thereof from the present head of navigation to its source.

6. The drainage and reclamation of the adjacent public lands and the opening of a navigable route by the construction of a canal from Lake Washington, on the waters of the St. Johns river, to the Indian River.

And Whereas, the performance of these works of internal improvement would, in the opinion of this Board, be of vast importance to the State in opening up for settlement a large portion of the State now unoccupied and unfit for settlement, and would greatly enhance the value of the adjacent lands belonging to the Internal Improvement Fund.



Now, Therefore, in consideration of the premises.

*Be it Resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida*, That, for the due performance of the work of drainage and reclamation hereinbefore specified, we will grant and convey to the said Midland Railway, Drainage and Canal Company all the swamp and overflowed lands now or hereafter belonging to the Internal Improvement Fund, lying in the odd numbered sections, which shall be drained and reclaimed from inundation and overflow by means of the work done by said Company in making the improvements aforesaid: *Provided, however*, that this grant is subject to all the conditions, limitations and restrictions embraced in the act incorporating said Company; and any forfeiture of the privileges and franchises granted in said act shall also work as a forfeiture of any benefits under these resolutions.

*Be it further Resolved*, That the land herein mentioned shall be confirmed and conveyed to said Company only as the work progresses, that is to say: When any one of the works of reclamation and drainage hereinbefore mentioned shall have been completed by said Company, as provided in the act of incorporation, then said Company shall be entitled to receive the lands drained and reclaimed by it as provided in the foregoing resolution; and so, from time to time, until the whole work is completed. When any one of said works of improvement shall be completed, and the said Company shall notify the Trustees thereof and furnish a list of the lands which they claim have been drained and reclaimed thereby, this Board will appoint a competent person to examine said work and said lands, and report thereon; and if, upon such examination, it shall appear that said lands have been drained and reclaimed from inundation and overflow by the work aforesaid, a deed shall be made conveying to the said Company the lands to which it is entitled under these Resolutions.

John C. Chambers, President of the Midland Railway, Drainage and Canal Company, being present, did notify the Board that on behalf of said Company he accepted the terms of the foregoing resolutions.

Tallahassee, Florida, September 3, 1879.

**The Board met in the Comptroller's Office.**

**Present:** Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

Walter Gwynn presented his account for expenses in attending the U. S. Court in Jacksonville in June, and for express charges and telegraphing amounting to \$19.50 which was approved and ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

**Attest:**

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, September 6, 1879.

**The Board met in the Executive Office.**

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

An application was received for the appointment of Thomas R. McCullough as Special Agent for the collection of stumpage on the north side of Choctawhatchie Bay; which was read and postponed until the return of Mr. Berry, Timber Agent.

Arthur T. Williams was appointed Special Agent for the collection of stumpage in Duval county.

The application by Mary A. Macdonald for a deed to Lot No. 2, Section 29, Township 19, South, Range 30, East, which tract was purchased by her through Williams, Swann & Corley in June, 1874, was taken up for

consideration, and the Salesman and Treasurer having reported that the purchase money for said land was paid over to the Trustees, *it was Ordered*, That the Trustees will execute a deed conveying said land to the said Mary A. Macdonald.

A letter was received from T. C. S. Crosby, who had purchased lands lying in Sections 9 and 15, Township 5, South, Range 29, East, which lie within the limits of the grant to the St. Johns Railway Company, asking the privilege of surrendering said lands and locating others in lieu thereof.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary inform Mr. Crosby that the Board will allow him to locate other lands belonging to the Fund in lieu of the lands so entered to the amount of the purchase money paid for the lands surrendered.

The following resolution was adopted:

*Ordered*, That the Salesman be instructed to restore to market the even numbered sections of land within six miles of the route of the Peninsular Railroad, which were withdrawn from sale on the 21st of September last; *Provided*, That where any of said lands have been applied for during the time when they were reserved from sale, the Salesman shall notify the applicants that the lands are subject to entry, and shall allow them sixty days from this date to make payment for the lands applied for.

The following resolution was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the scale of prices of the swamp and overflowed lands be further extended as follows, to wit:

For more than 640 acres and not exceeding 2,000 acres, in one body, seventy cents per acre.

For more than 2,000 and not exceeding 10,000 acres, in bodies of not less than 640 acres, sixty-five cents per acre.

For more than 10,000 and not exceeding 50,000 acres, in bodies of not less than 5,000 acres, sixty cents per acre.

For more than 50,000 and not exceeding 100,000 acres, in bodies of not less than 5,000 acres, fifty-five cents per acre.

For more than 100,000 acres, in bodies of not less than 5,000 acres, fifty cents per acre.

The account of M. A. Williams, for commissions on

sales in August, amounting to \$247.70, was presented, approved and ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, October 11, 1879.

The Board met in the State Land Office.

Present: Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The Commissioner laid before the Board a letter from E. J. Berry, stating that Mr. Brush, the Special Agent for the collection of stumpage at that point, is absent, and had appointed a deputy to attend to his business.

The Secretary was instructed to write to Mr. Brush and state that he has no power to appoint a deputy, and that he is expected to give his personal attention to the duties of his agency.

On motion, Mr. E. J. Berry was appointed Special Agent *ad interim* at Cedar Keys during the absence of Mr. Brush.

The Board then adjourned.

C. DREW,  
President pro tem.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secy.

Tallahassee, Florida, October 30, 1879.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The Governor laid before the Board of Trustees a letter from the Commissioner of the General Land Office stating that certain lands in Section 26, 27 and 34, Township 31, South, Range 24, East, which had been selected by the State for Internal Improvements, were subsequently entered under the Homestead act by Julius C. Rockener and Solomon Godwin. That said selections have not yet been approved to the State, but that the homestead entries were erroneously allowed by the Register of the Gainesville Land Office. That the parties were notified that their entries were held for cancellation. That they have represented to the Department that their entries were made in good faith, and that they have placed very valuable improvements on the land. The Commissioner states that it is not in his power to afford relief to said parties, unless the State authorities will relinquish the lands to the Government, and invokes favorable action in the matter.

Which communication was referred to the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration for investigation and report.

Entry No. 8981, by Elijah B. Sparkman of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 20, T. 28, S., R. 20, E., made September 26, 1879, for which no deed was ever executed, was canceled on the ground of mistake, and the Treasurer directed to refund the purchase money paid therefor, amounting to thirty-nine dollars and ninety-six cents.

Patent No. 19, Tallahassee Land District and Patent No. 1, Gainesville Land District, embracing lands selected for the State prior to 1861, and not heretofore patented, amounting to 16,873.73 acres, having been received, and having been procured through S. I. Wailes, the Agent of the State in Washington, the Salesman was instructed to permit Mr. Wailes to enter lands under his contract amounting to 1,349.90 acres, being eight per cent. of the quantity patented as aforesaid.

A communication was received from J. W. Scott, Jr., living near the St. Johns River in St. Johns County, asking permission to cut dead pine for cord wood as fuel for steam-boats navigating the river.

*Ordered*, That the permission asked for be granted to Mr. Scott on the condition of payment of twenty-five cents for each cord of dead wood cut upon State land:



The Treasurer reported the following receipts from stumpage paid over by Agents:

By John Theobald, at Apalachicola, \$20.65.

By W. H. Hutchinson, at Pensacola, \$18.75.

By A. N. Pacetti, St. Johns County, \$13.90.

The following accounts were approved, and ordered paid:

M. A. Williams, Coms. on Sales in September, \$70.15.

C. A. Bryan, Jr., Binding for Salesman's Office, \$2.50.

E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, Expenses in August, \$89.65.

Postage for Salesman's Office, \$24.16.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, November 4, 1879.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

A communication was received from Louis J. Brush resigning the appointment of Special Agent at Cedar Keys for the collection of stumpage; which resignation was accepted.

The Board appointed H. Porter Jackson as Special Agent at Cedar Keys for the collection of stumpage in the place of Louis J. Brush, resigned.

The Commissioner of Lands and Immigration to whom was referred the letter to Governor Drew from the General Land Office respecting certain lands selected by the State for Internal Improvement purposes but which were afterwards entered by Julius C. Rockener and Solomon Godwin as homesteads, reported that the facts were as stated in the letter of Commissioner of the General Land Office, and that the selections had not yet been confirmed to the State.

*Ordered.* That the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration withdraw the following selections for Internal Improvements and relinquish the claim of the State thereto,

to wit: The SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 26, SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 27, NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  and E $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 34, Township 31, South, Range 25, East, the same being the lands entered under the Homestead act by Julius C. Rockener and Solomon Godwin.

A communication was received from James H. Stephens, of Taylor County, complaining of irregularity by E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, in his official duties in Taylor and Lafayette counties; and also an extract from the presentment of the Grand Jury of Taylor County referring to the charges of Mr. Stephens against Mr. Berry.

The Secretary was instructed to notify Mr. Berry of the complaints made, and to request him to come before the Board next week and explain the matters complained of.

A communication was received from John C. Chambers, President of the Midland Railway, Drainage and Canal Company stating that the Company had placed a Steamboat upon Lake Kissimmee with a Topographical and Civil Engineer, with the intention of proceeding to Lake Okechobee for the purpose of commencing the work of digging a canal connecting said Lake with the Caloosahatchie river, and expressing great apprehension that upon the commencement of their work the lands adjacent to the river would be speedily entered at the Land Office, to the detriment of the Company's interests, and requesting that the lands to which they would be entitled on completing their work be reserved from sale.

The Secretary was instructed to reply to Capt. Chambers that the Board do not consider it expedient to reserve lands from sale as requested.

The following bills were presented and approved:

H. A. Corley, Salesman, Express charges and telegraphing during August, September & October, \$7.70.

L. B. Wombwell, expenses 2 trips to Jacksonville to examine the accounts of R. R. Receivers, \$49.50.

M. A. Williams, Coms. on Sales in October, \$27.13.

On motion, the Board reconsidered the action had on the 6th September upon the letter of Mr. T. C. S. Crosby, allowing him to locate other lands in lieu of those entered by him several years ago in the odd numbered Sections within Six miles of the St. Johns Railway; and the Secretary was instructed to communicate with the officers of said Railway Company and inquire how they propose to

adjust their claim for the lands sold by the Trustees within six miles of their road.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Commissioner.

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Tallahassee, Nov. 13th, 1879.

The Board met in the Treasurer's Office.

Present: Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
Geo. P. Raney, Atty. Genl.

The Comptroller acted as President pro tem and the Attorney General as Secretary pro tem. The Attorney General laid before the Board a letter from Hon. D. L. Yulee requesting that the even-numbered Sections of land within six miles of the Waldo and Ocala Railroad—which were restored to the market by a resolution passed Sept. 6.—be again withdrawn whereupon the following resolution was adopted:

*Resolved*, That no sales shall be made for the period of twenty days from this date of lands lying on either side of and within six miles of the Peninsular Railway and that the agents for the sale of land be so notified and directed in case any applications for the purchase of said land or any part thereof is made to notify the applicants that the propriety of selling the same is under consideration, and to note the time of all applications to purchase in order that the person or persons first applying may have the preferred right to purchase in case said lands shall be restored to market.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: C. DREW, President Pro tem.  
GEO. P. RANEY, Secretary pro tem.

Tallahassee, Nov. 17th, 1879.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

C. Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

Geo. P. Raney, Attorney General.

The Attorney General acted as Secretary pro tem.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Whereas, application has at different times, been made to this Board by different parties proposing to build a ship canal across this State, for the purpose of ascertaining upon what terms this Board will sell lands to persons who may construct such canal; and whereas the Board desires to lend all reasonable encouragement to the accomplishment of such a project, *Resolved*, That the Board will sell to any company having ability to carry out the project and bona fide undertaking and prosecuting the same, any lands belonging to it and lying on either side of the two hundred feet right of way granted by the Act entitled "An Act to Provide a General Law for the Incorporation of Railroads and Canals" approved Feby. 19th, 1874, and within one eighth of a mile of the limit of said two hundred feet, at five cents per acre, but none of said lands will be reserved from sale until there shall have been made and filed in the Office of the Secretary of State of this State a working survey of the canal proposed. Such sale will not be made unless the survey is filed within nine months from the 17th day of November, A. D. 1879; and *Resolved*, further, That this Board will (provided the Legislature shall recommend and authorize it) sell to any such company, after the actual construction of the canal shall have been commenced, and is being carried on in good faith, two million acres of land at 30 cents per acre, in bodies of not less than 10,000 acres, not less than 100,000 acres to be sold at any one time; and after the completion of the canal, said company may purchase in like manner 1,000,000 acres additional at five cents per acre. No reservation shall be made by this Board of any lands from sale except those within the limit of one eighth of a mile from the said two hundred feet limit and these shall not be reserved for longer than five years. Should any such company in any manner acquire the alternate sections of land within six miles of said canal

the remaining sections within such limit of six miles will not be subject to sale to said company at any of the prices aforesaid, except that portion of the same within the said one eighth mile limit. This resolution is not intended to give preference to any particular company.

Account of R. F. Taylor, for professional services assisting E. J. Berry State Timber Agent, for \$50.00 was approved and ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
GEO. P. RANEY, Secretary pro tem.

Tallahassee, Nov. 19th, 1879.

The Board met in the Attorney General's Office.

Present: C. Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

Geo. P. Raney, Attorney General.

The Comptroller acted as President pro tem.

A letter from E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, in answer to certain charges brought against him by J. H. Stephens was laid before the Board. Consideration of the same was postponed.

The following accounts were approved and ordered paid:

|                                                             |          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| M. A. Williams, Comms. from 1 to 17th inst., inclusive..... | \$664.97 |
| E. J. Berry, Expenses for Sept. & Oct.....                  | 98.60    |

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

C. DREW,  
President pro tem.

GEO. P. RANEY,  
Secretary pro tem.

Tallahassee, Nov. 20th, 1879.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Geo. F. Drew, Governor.

C. Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

Geo. P. Raney, Atty. Genl.



The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Whereas, Patents Nos. 17 and 18 of former Tampa now Gainesville Land District, embracing lands selected for the State since the War, and not heretofore patented, amounting to 895,875.02 having been received and having been procured through Mr. S. I. Wailes, the Agent for the State in Washington, *Resolved*, That the Salesman be instructed to allow Mr. Wailes to enter lands under his contract to the amount of \$17,917.50 that amount being his commissions on said patents, at the rate of 2 cts. per acre for each acre patented as per Resolution of Oct. 19th, 1878.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

GEO. P. RANEY, Secretary pro tem.

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Tallahassee, Florida, December 8, 1879.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Geo. F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The account of Charles F. Hopkins for services and expenses as State Agent in examining Swamp lands, amounting to \$163.92 was presented. The Board approved said account to the amount of \$146.77 and suspended items amounting to \$17.15.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, December 29, 1879.

The Board met in the Secretary of State's Office.

Present: Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

*Resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida*, That there be and is hereby granted to James R. Mims and Rufus Milligan, and their assigns, the survivor of them and the heirs and assigns of such survivor, in consideration of the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars paid to said Board, the right of way for the width of fifty feet for the purpose of digging and cutting a canal through the hereinafter described lands, lying and being in the county of Santa Rosa, in the State aforesaid, to wit:

The South West quarter of the North West quarter of Section Two; the South East quarter of the North East quarter, the North West quarter of the South East quarter, the North East quarter of the South West quarter, and the West half of the South West quarter of Section Three; the East half of the South East quarter of Section Four; the East half of the North East quarter, and the East half of the South East quarter of Section Nine; the South half of the South East quarter of Section Ten; the East half of the North West quarter, and the North West quarter of the North West quarter of Section Eleven; the North West quarter of the North East quarter, the East half of the North West quarter, and the South West quarter of the North West quarter of Section Fifteen, in Township Five, North, of Range Twenty Seven, West.

The Lot numbered Four of Section Twenty seven; the Lot numbered One of Section Twenty-eight, the East half of the North East quarter, and the East half of the South East quarter of Section Thirty-three; the West half of the North West quarter, the West half of the South West quarter, and the South East quarter of the South East quarter of Section Thirty-four; and the North East quarter of the North West quarter, the South West quarter of the North West quarter, and the North West quarter

of the South West quarter of Section Thirty-five, in Township Six, North, of Range Twenty-seven, West.

The North East quarter of the North East quarter, and the West half of the South West quarter of section one; the East half, and the North West quarter of Section Two; the North West quarter and the West half of the South West quarter of Section Twelve; in Township Three, North, of Range Twenty-nine, West.

The West half of the South West quarter of Section Twenty-five; the South West quarter of the South East quarter of Section Twenty-six; and the West half of the North East quarter, and the East half of the North West quarter of Section Twenty-seven; in Township Five, North, of Range Twenty-nine, West.

Said canal or ditch to be of such depth as may be necessary for floating logs; and said grantees to have the right to use and appropriate within the limit of fifty feet aforesaid any timber, stone or earth necessary in the construction or repair of such canal or ditch, or necessary to the use of the same, and to use and occupy any land bordering on said canal or ditch and lying within said fifty feet which may be necessary for the use of said ditch or canal for the purpose of floating logs as aforesaid.

Application was received from Edward M. Lee for the cancellation of Entry No. 4965 and the refunding of the purchase money paid therefor, said entry having been made December 27, 1867, upon the S $\frac{1}{2}$  of Lot No. 8, Section 25, Township 1, South, Range 14, East, said land never having been patented to the State of Florida.

*Ordered*, That said entry be cancelled, and the purchase money paid therefor (twenty dollars) be refunded.

An application was received from William C. Brown, of Tampa, for the privilege of purchasing 8,100 acres of land in Hillsborough county at less than the regular price, accompanied with affidavits showing that none of the lands are fit for settlement or cultivation.

*Ordered*, That said application be denied.

A communication was received from John C. Chambers, President of the Midland Railway, Drainage and Canal Company, complaining that the Board had not encouraged the enterprise of said Company, and inquiring

at what price the Board would sell said Company one million acres of land.

The Secretary was instructed to reply to Capt. Chambers and say that the Board will agree to sell to said Company one million acres of land at forty cents per acre—the land to be selected in bodies of not less than 10,000 acres.

The Board then adjourned.

WALTER GWYNN,  
President pro tem.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, December 30, 1879.

The Board met in the Office of the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

Present: Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The following accounts were presented and approved:  
M. A. Williams, for commissions on sales from  
the 14th to 30th November .....\$ 95.17

Haley T. Blocker, salary and expenses as State  
Agent in the Swamp Land Indemnity investiga-  
tion from November 1 to December 13, 1879.... 122.30

Mr. Raney offered the following resolution which was  
unanimously adopted:

*Resolved*, That, whereas, General Henry R. Jackson, of Savannah, Georgia, has applied to this Board for authority to institute, in the name and on behalf of said Board, against any person or persons who may be liable to such Board for the unpaid balance due on the amount of the purchase price for which the Pensacola and Georgia Railroad and Tallahassee Railroad were sold by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund on the twentieth day of March, A. D. 1869, whether such persons were originally so liable or have become so since the sale, such suit or suits as may be proper to recover such balance or any part thereof, he, the said Henry R. Jackson

is granted such authority upon the following terms and conditions:

*1st.* Neither the Board nor the Fund shall be liable for any costs, expenses or attorneys' fees of such suit or suits.

*2nd.* Any moneys recovered in such suit or suits shall be paid over to this Board, or its successors, to be applied under the Internal Improvement Act to the satisfaction of the bonds of the Pensacola and Georgia Railroad Company and Tallahassee Railroad Company issued under the provisions of said act, provided any of the same shall be outstanding and unpaid.

*3rd.* No suit shall be commenced which shall impair the lien of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund for the purchase money bid at such sales on said railroads or any decree they may have enforcing the same, or that shall interfere with the Trustees enforcing such decrees; Provided, however, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to deny the right of General Jackson to compensation out of any moneys recovered by him, or to pay costs of the suits out of the same.

Mr. Raney offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

*Resolved,* That the Attorney General be requested to take such steps as may be proper to secure an early hearing of the appeals taken to the Supreme Court of the United States in the case involving the Pensacola and Georgia and Tallahassee Railroads, now known as the Jacksonville, Pensacola and Mobile Railroad.

The Secretary laid before the Board the following communication, accompanied with the list of lands therein referred to:

Fernandina, Fla., Dec. 17th, 1879.

To the Trustees of the Internal Impt. Fund,  
Tallahassee, Fla.

Gentlemen:

By direction of the Atlantic, Gulf and West India Transit Company I herewith enclose you copy of the list (26,298.94-100 acres) of State lands, in the odd-numbered sections, between the 6 mile parallels of the located (and now partly completed) line that part of the main line of said Railroad, known as the Peninsular Railway, which was filed with you in 1876.



The Company now asks that this list of lands be officially recognized by the Trustees and certified to said Company—it having now completed its line (from Fernandina towards Ocala) three and one half sections of 30 miles each, as contemplated in the 15th Sec. of the Internal Impt. Act.

Respectfully,

SAML. A. SWANN, Land Agt. for Co.

On motion of Mr. Corley, it was

*Ordered*, That the Secretary notify the Peninsular Railway Company that the Trustees hold reserved from sale all the odd-numbered sections of land belonging to the Fund within six miles of the route of the Peninsular Railway from Waldo to Ocala, but no list of the lands granted to said Company can be certified by the Trustees until said Company shall have completed thirty miles of that portion of the line or route from Amelia Island, on the Atlantic, to the waters of Tampa Bay, in South Florida, which they are authorized to construct, and shall have furnished proof thereof.

The Secretary laid before the Board the following communication, accompanied with the list of lands therein referred to:

Fernandina, Fla., Dec. 10th, 1879.

Hugh A. Corley,

Secy. Trustees I. I. Fund,  
Tallahassee, Fla.

Dear Sir:

At the request of the Peninsular Railway Company, I herewith enclose, and beg that you will place on file, a list of about 7,000 acres of State land, selected for said Company from the even numbered sections within the 6 mile limit of its road, and which said Company asks that you will certify to it in lieu of an equal quantity of land conveyed by your Board to individual purchasers from lands in the odd-sections heretofore granted to the Florida R. R. Co. for its Ocala extension.

Very Respectfully,

SAML. A. SWANN,  
For Peninsular R. R. Co.

Mr. Corley offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

*Resolved*, That the lands selected and applied for on

behalf of the Peninsular Railway Company, lying in the even numbered sections, as indemnity for and in lieu of lands lying in the odd-numbered sections within six miles of the line or route of said Railway which have been sold by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, be withdrawn from sale for sixty days, so as to afford an opportunity to said Peninsular Railway Company to procure from the United States Circuit Court an order or decree authorizing or permitting this Board to convey said lands to said Company.

*Resolved further*, That during the time of such reservation, all applications for any of said lands shall be noted by the Salesman and the applicants informed of the reservation; and, if the lands shall thereafter be restored to market, all such applicants shall have sixty days' notice thereof and the privilege in that time to make the entry in preference to all other persons.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:           WALTER GWYNN, President pro tem.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, December 31, 1879.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The following bills were presented and approved:

Geo. P. Raney, Expenses of two trips to Jacksonville to attend the U. S. Court, and cash paid for costs, \$49.40.

Hugh A. Corley, Expenses of trip to Jacksonville to attend U. S. Court, and telegrams on official business, \$30.20.

Philip Walter, Clerk U. S. Court, Costs of Court, \$15.75.

C. E. Dyke, for printing, \$107.50.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:           GEO. F. DREW, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, January 10, 1880.

The Board met in the office of the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

Present: Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
 Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
 George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
 Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

On motion, Mr. Raney was authorized to employ Hon. C. W. Jones to represent the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund in a motion before the Supreme Court of the United States to advance upon the docket the Railroad suits decided in Jacksonville and taken up on appeal.

The Attorney General laid before the Board a letter from J. W. Archibald on behalf of parties desiring to construct the Railroad from Jacksonville to St. Augustine, inquiring upon what terms the parties can purchase from the Trustees the lands adjacent to the route of said road and not embraced in the land grant.

The Board decided that they would not sell said lands to said Company except at the regular prices fixed for the lands, and such as would be required of any other purchaser.

T. J. Moore and J. P. Grantham appeared before the Board representing the Aucilla and Wacissa Canal and Navigation Company, and a conference was held with respect to granting lands from the fund in aid of the enterprise, but no definite action was taken thereon.

The following accounts were approved:

Barton D. Jones, U. S. Special Agent, expense of teams and board bill of H. S. DuVal, State Agent, \$24.00.

M. A. Williams, Coms. on sales in December, \$178.23.

M. A. Williams, articles purchased in making Swamp Land Indemnity Investigation, \$69.60.

Isaiah Geiger, men and teams and labor constructing raft across Thomas Swamp, in Swamp Land Indemnity Investigation, \$5.00.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

President pro tem.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, January 14, 1880.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The Secretary laid before the Board a letter from Hon. W. J. Jones upon the question of "Stumpage," in which he expresses the opinion that the "Stumpage system" is the best for the State and the people, provided the Agents act promptly.

The following Special Agents for the protection of timber and the collection of Stumpage were appointed:

J. S. Dyches, for Sumter County.

James W. DeWitt, for Clay County.

J. W. Campbell, for Walton County.

The district of D. Isaac Craft, Special Agent in Hillsborough county for the collection of stumpage, was extended so as to embrace that part of Manatee county lying in Townships 33, 34 and 35, west of Range 23.

On motion, it was

*Ordered*, That the Special Agents for the collection of stumpage be required to give bond for the faithful discharge of their duties, and the payment of all moneys coming into their hands according to the regulations and instructions of this Board; the bond of the Agent at Cedar Keys to be for one thousand dollars, and the bonds of the other Agents to be for five hundred dollars.

*Ordered*, That the Special Agents be required to report monthly their collections, &c.

*Ordered*, That stumpage be charged upon dead and fallen pine for fuel at 25 cents per cord.

A letter was received from G. W. Moody for permission to cut cross-ties upon the State land at stumpage rates.

The Secretary was instructed to inform Mr. Moody that the Trustees are not willing to allow the cutting of timber for cross-ties upon the lands belonging to the Fund.

The Governor laid before the Board a communication from the Senator and Representatives from Hernando county asking the removal of C. T. Jenkins, Special Agent

in said county for the collection of Stumpage, upon the ground that said Jenkins is himself an extensive timber dealer.

The Secretary was instructed to write to Mr. Jenkins and inquire into the correctness of the statement that he is a timber dealer.

Mr. E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, presented his account for expenses during the months of November and December, 1879, amounting to \$103.45; which account was approved; and the Secretary was instructed to call Mr. Berry's attention to the order made some time ago requiring him to send forward his accounts monthly.

A bill for postage and box rent for Salesman's office amounting to \$13.98 was presented and approved.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

*Resolved*, That the resolutions adopted by the Board November 17, 1879, for the sale of lands to any company constructing a ship canal across the State of Florida be so modified and amended that the sale contemplated in the first resolution will be made to any company filing the survey of its route within twelve months from the 17th day of November, A. D. 1879.

*Resolved*, further, That after the construction of the canal shall have been commenced and is being carried on in good faith, if the Company are unwilling to await the recommendation and authority of the Legislature for making the sale of lands as set forth in the second of said resolutions, this Board will sell to said Company three millions acres of land at thirty cents per acre, to be selected in bodies of not less than ten thousand acres.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, January 24, 1880.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.



A communication was received from I. Coryell, on behalf of the Atlantic Coast Steamboat, Canal and Improvement Company, a company incorporated under the general laws of the State for the purpose of cutting canals and improving channels so as to afford navigable water communication from the Saint Johns river to Lake Worth, applying to the Board for such donation of the public lands as may be deemed proper in carrying out the enterprise. Which was read and referred to the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration for reply.

The Commissioner of Lands and Immigration laid before the Board the bond of Adolphus N. Pacetti, special Timber Agent for St. Johns county, with B. F. Oliveros and George S. Greeno as sureties; which bond was approved.

The following special agents for the prevention of trespass and the collection of stumpage were appointed:

Thomas W. Shine, for Orange county, except the district heretofore assigned to J. H. Lee.

J. J. Johnson, for Lafayette county.

John C. Henry, for Columbia county.

The district assigned to J. W. Campbell was modified so as to embrace all of Walton and Holmes counties west of the Choctawhatchie river and north of Township one, North.

The following accounts were presented and approved:

W. R. Wilson, for 1 set of wagon harness in Swamp Land Indemnity Investigation, \$17.00.

H. S. DuVal, one month's salary and expenses as special agent in Swamp Land Indemnity Investigation, \$111.00.

C. A. Bryan, Jr., for ruling and binding two volumes "Register of Entries of Swamp Lands" for the Salesman's office, \$18.00.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

*Resolved*, That all permits to cut timber on State lands hereafter granted shall specify the numbers of the land upon which permission to cut is given, and no permit shall embrace more than 640 acres, or one section of land, and all such permits shall give the exclusive right to cut timber upon the lands mentioned therein.

*Resolved, further*, That all permits heretofore given in which the numbers of the land are not specified, or which embrace a larger quantity than six hundred and forty



The Commissioner laid before the Board the bonds of the following agents for the collection of stumpage:

H. Porter Jackson, at Cedar Keys, for \$1,000 with James M. Jackson, W. J. Epperson and J. M. Barco, as sureties.

James W. DeWitt, of Clay County, for \$500, with Joseph B. Register, Joseph Brooker, James Conway and James Taylor as sureties.

John Theobald, at Apalachicola, for \$500, with H. L. Grady and R. H. Porter as sureties.

And said bonds were approved by the Board.

On motion, it was Ordered, That the Special Agent at Cedar Keys for the collection of stumpage be allowed the same commissions upon collection as the other Agents, to wit: twenty per cent.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW. President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, February 3, 1880.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

The Secretary laid before the Board a communication from George G. McWhorter, Esq., Attorney of Messrs. Mims & Milligan in reference to the right of way granted to them by the resolution adopted on the 29th December last, stating that some of the lands embraced in said resolution lie some distance from the creeks, and furnishing a description of the lands through which the right of way is desired:

Whereupon it was

*Resolved*, That the resolution adopted on the 29th day of December, 1879, granting the right of way through certain lands to James R. Mims and Rufus Milligan, be amended by striking out the description of the lands em-

braced therein and inserting the following named lands in lieu thereof:

The South West quarter of the North West quarter, and the West half of the South West quarter of Section Six; the West half of the South West quarter of Section Seven; the South East quarter of the North West quarter, and the North West quarter of the South East quarter of Section Eighteen; the East half of the North East quarter, and the North West quarter of the South East quarter of Section Nineteen; the South West quarter of the South East quarter of Section Twenty-nine; the North West quarter of the North East quarter of Section Thirty-two; the East half of the South West quarter of Section Twenty-one; the West half of the North West quarter of Section Twenty-eight; the East half of the North West quarter, and the North West quarter of the South West quarter of Section Eleven; the South half of the South East quarter of Section Ten; and the East half of the North West quarter, and the South West quarter of the North West quarter of Section Fifteen, in Township Five, North of Range Twenty-seven, West.

The West half of the North East quarter, and the West half of the South East quarter of Section Six; the West half of the North East quarter of Section Seven; the East half of the North East quarter of Section Eighteen; in Township Four, North, of Range Twenty-eight, West.

The South East quarter of the North East quarter, and the East half of the South East quarter of Section Thirty-one; and the West half of the North West quarter of Section Thirty-two; in Township Five, North, of Range Twenty-eight, West.

The South East quarter of the South East quarter of Section Two; the East half of the North East quarter, and the East half of the South East quarter of Section Eleven; the East half of the North East quarter of Section Fourteen; the South West quarter of the North West quarter and the West half of the South West quarter of Section Thirteen; and the North East quarter of the North West quarter of Section Twenty-four; in Township Four, North, of Range Twenty-nine West.

The following accounts were presented and approved:

M. A. Williams, Commissions on Sales in January,  
\$139.60.

Barton D. Jones, State's share of expenses in Swamp Land Investigation in West Florida in January, \$48.25.

Haley T. Blocker, Special Agent in Swamp Land Investigation for subsistence from 1 to 15 December, \$12.50.

Hugh A. Corley, for cash paid for notarial seal for James G. Gibbes, Special Agent in Swamp Land Investigation, \$2.60.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, February 6, 1880.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

The Commissioner of Lands and Immigration laid before the Board the official bonds of the following named Special Agents for the collection of Stumpage, and said bonds were approved, to wit:

Josiah S. Dyches, Special Agent for Sumter County.

J. J. Johnson, Special Agent for Lafayette County.

Thomas W. Shine, Special Agent for part of Orange County.

The account of E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, for expenses during the month of January, amounting to \$61.40, was presented and approved.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, February 9, 1880.

The Board met in the Treasurer's Office.

Present: Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.



The Commissioner of Lands and Immigration laid before the Board a communication from Col. A. E. Protois, U. S. Agent in the Swamp Land Indemnity investigation, in reference to the account of Charles F. Hopkins, State Agent, accompanying him in said investigation, expressing the opinion that Mr. Hopkins' account should be approved for 21 days in December and 16 days in January; Whereupon, the account of Charles F. Hopkins for his salary as Special Agent for 21 days in December, 1879 and 16 days in January, 1880, amounting to one hundred and twenty dollars, was allowed.

The Board then adjourned.

C. DREW,  
President pro tem.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, February 10, 1880.

The Board met.

Present: Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands  
& Immigration.

The following resolution was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the resolutions of this Board scaling the prices of swamp lands according to the quantity purchased shall not be constructed in their application so as to permit the sale of any quantity of land for a less amount than the purchase money required for a smaller quantity. For instance, if any person desires to purchase more than 10,000 acres at sixty cents per acre, he will be required to pay therefor at least as much as a purchase of 10,000 acres at sixty-five cents per acre—*Provided*, this rule shall not effect any application now pending.

The Board then adjourned.

C. DREW,  
President pro tem.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, February 14th, 1880.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Geo. F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

Geo. P. Raney, Attorney General.

The Attorney General was elected to act as Secretary pro tem.

A communication dated Gainesville, Fla., Feb. 12th, 1880, from Chas. F. Hopkins, Esq. to Hon. Hugh A. Corley, Commr. of L. & I. requesting allowances for services during the months of December 1879 and January 1880, during the time work was suspended on the Swamp land indemnity investigation and making other requests was laid before the Board and the Secretary pro tem was directed to notify Col. Hopkins that the Board declines to accede to such requests.

The Treasurer presented a letter of the 12th inst. from J. C. Greeley of Jacksonville, to him enclosing a power of attorney from Charles F. Hopkins which is in the following words and figures to wit: "For and in consideration of advances made to me I hereby authorize J. C. Greeley to receive and receipt for any monies due me from the Trustees of the Board of Internal Improvement of Florida now or to become due."

(signed) "CHAS. F. HOPKINS."

"State Agent and Surveyor."

"Jacksonville, Fla., Feby. 7", 1880."

In such letter Mr. Greeley requests information as to the amount for which he shall make the receipt for December & January. The Treasurer was requested to notify Mr. Greeley of the action of this Board as to allowances to Mr. Hopkins for services rendered in the matter of the Swamp land indemnity investigation during the months of December 1879 and January 1880 and that no further allowances will be made him for such months and that the accounts of allowances made for such services in such months have been audited and forwarded to Mr. Hopkins and to further notify Mr. Greeley that the board will not agree to pay any claims of Mr. Hopkins except upon an account duly audited by the Board and endorsed by Mr. Hopkins to whomsoever he desired them paid and to return the power of Attorney to Mr. Greeley

and notify him of the claim of J. Ramsey Dey against said Hopkins in Mr. Corley's hands.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

GEO. P. RANEY, Atty. Genl.  
Secretary pro tem.

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Tallahassee, Florida, March 2d, 1880.

The Board met in the Comptroller's Office.

Present: Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands  
& Immigration.

The account of M. A. Williams for commissions on sales in February, amounting to \$1184.40 was presented and approved.

The Board then adjourned.

C. DREW,  
President pro tem.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, March 9, 1880.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands &  
Immigration.

The Secretary announced that on the fourth instant the survey of the route of the Gainesville, Ocala and Charlotte Harbor Railroad, from Lake City to Charlotte Harbor by the way of Gainesville, Ocala and Leesburg, with branches to Tampa and Palatka, and the survey of the Silver Springs, Ocala and Gulf Railroad from Silver Springs to Blue Spring, had been filed.

The Secretary laid before the Board a communication from the President of the Gainesville, Ocala and Charlotte Harbor Railroad Company, enclosing a copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of said Company selecting for said Company under Chapter 3167 of the Laws of Florida the odd-numbered sections of Swamp Lands within six miles on each side of their route, and requesting that the same be withdrawn from market, and also a communication from Henry C. Whitney, Esq., Solicitor of said Company, requesting that the Trustees sell to said Company a body of land within ten miles of that part of the road between Palatka and Gainesville, not to exceed 120,000 acres, at reduced prices. Mr. Whitney also appeared in person before the Board representing said Company.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

*Be it Resolved*, That the Attorney General is directed to take such steps in the United States Circuit Court as may be necessary to secure a modification of the orders in the case of Francis Vose vs. The Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, in so far as the same may interfere with the withdrawal from sale of the alternate sections of land granted to the Gainesville, Ocala and Charlotte Harbor Railroad Company under the provisions of Chapter 3167 of the Laws of Florida approved March 4, 1879.

*And Be it further Resolved*, That until the action of the Court on the motion which may be made for the above purpose, the odd-numbered sections on either side of and within six miles of that part of the line of said Company's road between Palatka and Gainesville according to the plan thereof on file with the Board, be reserved from sale:

The Secretary laid before the Board a certified copy of an order made by the U. S. Circuit Court, in the case of Francis Vose vs. The Trustees I. I. Fund, authorizing the Trustees to convey to the Peninsular Railway Company certain lands in the even numbered sections in lieu of lands in the odd-numbered sections within six miles of said road sold by the Trustees.

Which order is as follows, to wit:

24 I. I.

In U. S. Circuit Court, 5th Judicial Circuit,  
Northern Dist. of Florida.

|                                                         |   |                                              |
|---------------------------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------------------|
| Francis Vose                                            | } | Petition of the Peninsular Railroad Company. |
| vs.                                                     |   |                                              |
| The Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund & others. |   |                                              |

And now on the nineteenth day of February A. D. 1880, the petition in this case coming on to be heard, and James M. Baker, Esquire, appearing for the petitioner, and Jno. T. Walker, Esquire, for Francis Vose and in opposition to the prayer of the petitioner, and argument having been heard, and it appearing that by Legislative Act of the State of Florida entitled "An Act to provide for and encourage a liberal system of internal improvements in this State," approved January 6th, 1855, and by the fifteenth section thereof, the State thereby granted to each of the different companies that might thereafter construct portions of any of the lines or routes indicated in said Act, the alternate sections of State lands on each side for six miles; and that by a resolution of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida adopted on the 29th day of December, 1856, the odd-numbered sections were allotted to the companies so constructing said roads; and that the line from Amelia Island, on the Atlantic, to the waters of Tampa Bay, with an extension to Cedar Keys, was one of the lines indicated in the Act, and to which said grant was applicable; and that the petitioner in this case, the Peninsular Railroad Company, deriving its rights through the Florida Railroad Company, is now engaged in constructing, under the provisions of the said Act of January 6th, 1855, that part of the line between Amelia Island and the waters of Tampa Bay which extends South from Waldo, the point at which the extension to Cedar Keys leaves the main line, to Tampa; and that some of the odd-numbered sections lying along the said line which were so granted, and to which said Company is by said grant entitled, have been inadvertently sold by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, and the proceeds of such sale appropriated to the use of the Trust; and that the Peninsular Railroad Company has consented to accept other lands within the six mile limits in substitu-



tion of the lands so sold by the said Trustees; and that the said Peninsular Railroad Company and the said Trustees have found upon investigation that the lands in odd-numbered sections specified in the schedule appended to the petition, marked (A) were so illegally sold by the Trustees, and have agreed that the lands specified in Schedule marked (B) also appended to said petition, should be substituted for the lands so improperly sold and be accepted by the said Company, in lieu thereof and in full satisfaction therefor.

*Therefore, It is Ordered and Adjudged,* That the said The Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida be authorized, and they are hereby authorized, to substitute to the said Peninsular Railroad Company the said lands described and specified in the Exhibit list marked (B) in the place and stead of the lands described and specified in the Exhibit list marked (A) and to execute such instrument as may be necessary to effectuate the order and authority herein contained.

(Signed) THOMAS SETTLE,

Judge.

Jacksonville, February 20, 1880.

Whereupon, it was

*Ordered,* That the lands heretofore reserved from sale at the request of the Peninsular Railroad Company in lieu of lands within six miles of their road in the odd numbered sections which had been sold by the Trustees be held reserved for the purpose of conveying the same to the said Company upon their compliance with the provisions and requirements of the Internal Improvement Law of January 6, 1855.

The following bills were presented and approved:

John McDougall, Stationery for Salesman's Office, \$16.70.

Hugh A. Corley, Miscellaneous Office Expenses, \$1.85.

C. E. Dyke, Printing for Salesman's Office, \$118.00.

James G. Gibbes, Salary as Special Agent of the State in Swamp Land investigation, \$176.60.

Haley T. Blocker, Salary and expenses as Special Agent in Swamp Land investigation, \$62.30.

Barton D. Jones, Expenses, Swp. Land Investigation, \$70.00.

Charles F. Hopkins. Services and expenses as Special Agent in Swamp Land Investigation, \$107.50.

The Commissioner of Lands and Immigration laid before the Board a communication from the Commissioner of the General Land Office at Washington reciting that the  $W\frac{1}{2}$  of  $SE\frac{1}{4}$  Section 6, Township 30, South, Range 25, East, which had been selected for the State of Florida in 1857 under the 8th Section of the Act of Congress of Sept. 4, 1841, was entered under the homestead act of Congress in the U. S. Land Office in 1870, and that Mr. W. H. Pearce, who made said entry, had complied with the law and in 1876 made final proof; that said entry was erroneous as being in conflict with the State's claim, and that it now rests with the State authorities whether said entry shall be canceled, or the land relinquished and other lands selected in lieu thereof.

Ordered, That the Commissioner of lands and Immigration be instructed to withdraw the selection of the  $W\frac{1}{2}$  of  $SE\frac{1}{4}$  Section 6, Township 30, South, Range 25, East, as Internal Improvement Land.

The Governor laid before the Board a letter from the Commissioner of the General Land Office notifying him that the approval of the  $NE\frac{1}{4}$  of  $SE\frac{1}{4}$  Section 5, &  $SE\frac{1}{4}$  of  $NE\frac{1}{4}$  Section 6, T. 17 S., R. 27, E., and  $SE\frac{1}{4}$  of  $NE\frac{1}{4}$  Section 20, T. 19 S., R. 28, E. embraced in Approved List No. 5, St. Augustine Land District, has been revoked, for the reason that said tracts do not appear to have been selected by the State as Swamp Lands, or reported to the General Land Office as such.

The Commissioner of Lands and Immigration laid before the Board the bonds of the following named Timber Agents:

J. W. Campbell, William Miller and J. H. Lee; and said bonds were approved.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, March 12, 1880.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Terasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The Secretary laid before the Board a letter from H. C. Whitney, Esq., on behalf of the Gainesville, Ocala and Charlotte Harbor Railroad Company proposing to purchase 120,000 acres of the Swamp lands lying within ten miles of their surveyed route between Palatka and Gainesville at a price not exceeding 30 cents per acre; which letter was referred to the Commissioner of Lands & Immigration to ascertain the actual value of said lands.

The Secretary laid before the Board a letter from F. J. White, of Walton county, alleging that upon an arbitration respecting trespass committed by his hands he has been compelled to pay more than the timber cut upon State lands was worth, and asking that a portion of the money be refunded; which request was refused.

The following persons were appointed Special Agents for the prevention of trespass and the collection of stumpage, viz:

John Price, Jr., for the county of Duval.

W. D. Finlayson, for the county of Levy, in the place of H. P. Jackson, deceased.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, March 16, 1880.

The Board met in the Comptroller's Office.

Present: Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

The account of E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, for expenses incurred in February, amounting to \$54.50 was presented, approved and ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

C. DREW, President pro tem.  
GEO. P. RANEY, Secretary pro tem.

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Tallahassee, Florida, March 20, 1880.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

A petition was received from a number of citizens of St. Augustine requesting the Board to sell to the Jacksonville, St. Augustine and Indian River Railroad Company certain State lands along the line of said railroad in order to aid said Company in building their road.

The Board also took up for consideration the request of the Gainesville, Ocala and Charlotte Harbor Railroad Company for the purchase of 120,000 acres between Palatka and Gainesville, within ten miles of their line of road, at not more than thirty cents per acre.

The Board decided to adhere to their decision made on the 10th January last, not to sell lands to a Railroad Company at less than the regular prices, such as would be required from any other purchaser.

The Commissioner of Lands & Immigration called the attention of the Board to a letter from the Commissioner of the General Land Office addressed to Hon. H. Bisbee and published in the Jacksonville Sun and Press of the 9th instant, stating that a large number of entries made in the U. S. Land Office of lands in the former Palatka Military Reserve were made upon lands belonging to the State under the Swamp Land grant of Congress, and will be canceled unless Congress should pass an act relieving the present condition of said entries.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

*Whereas*, a large quantity of lands lying in the former Palatka Military Reserve was selected for the State of Florida under the Act of September 28, 1850, and con-

firmed to the State by the Act of Congress of March 3, 1857, but has not yet been patented to the State: *And Whereas*, much of said land has been entered at the United States Land Office, and information has been received that said entries will be canceled on account of the claim of the State to said lands, unless Congress shall pass an act relieving the present condition of said entries: *And Whereas*, an entry made in good faith in the United States Land Office should entitle the person making the entry to the privilege of perfecting his claim before the lands are made subject to private entry; Therefore,

*Be it Resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund*, That should the lands in the former Palatka Military Reserve belonging to the State which have been entered at the United States Land Office, be patented to the State, any person who has entered any of said lands at the United States Land Office, shall be authorized, at any time within six months after the receipt of the patent and public advertisement thereof, to purchase said land from this Board, at the current price, upon making proof of said entry: Provided, however, that this resolution shall not apply to any entry under the Homestead Act of Congress where the provisions of that Act have not been complied with and which embraces the residence or improvements of another person.

*Ordered*, That the foregoing resolution be published in the Palatka Herald.

The Secretary laid before the Board the details of construction of the Gainesville, Ocala and Charlotte Harbor Railroad proposed by the Company as a modification of the details prescribed by the Internal Improvement Act; which were read and laid on the table.

The account of S. I. Wailes was presented for compensation for procuring the confirmation and patenting of 2,819,662.22 acres of Swamp lands, at two cents per acre, amounting to \$56,393.24.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

*Whereas*, Patents Nos. 19 & 20 of former Tampa, now Gainesville, Land District, embracing lands selected for the State since the war and not heretofore patented, amounting to 2,819,662.22 acres, have been received, and were procured through S. I. Wailes, the Agent of the State at Washington,



*Resolved*, That the Salesman be instructed to allow Mr. Wailes to enter lands under his contract to the amount of \$56,393.24, that amount being his commissions on said patents at the rate of two cents for each acre patented, as per resolution of October 19, 1878.

The account of Williams, Swann & Corley was presented for compensation for the selection of 536,995.15 acres of Swamp Lands embraced in Patent No. 19 of Tampa, now Gainesville, Land District, at two cents per acre, amounting to \$10,739.90.

*Ordered*, That the Salesman be instructed to allow Messrs. Williams, Swann & Corley to enter lands under their contract to the amount of \$10,739.90, said lands to be taken from lands confirmed to the State since the 10th day of May, 1873, the date of their contract.

A letter was received from Samuel A. Swann, on behalf of Williams & Swann, with respect to the balance of money due them for the selection of the lands embraced in Patent No. 20, their contract being for compensation at two cents per acre in currency, less twenty per cent., or in lands at one dollar per acre. Mr. Swann requested the payment in U. S. Currency, or if that cannot be made, that they be allowed to take lands at the present schedule prices, which have been reduced since the making of their contract. The Secretary was instructed to reply to Mr. Swann that the Board cannot now pay the balance due in U. S. Currency, and that if Williams and Swann take lands in payment the Board cannot change the original contract fixing the price at one dollar per acre.

A letter was received from Samuel A. Swann returning deed No. 9014 of November 17, 1879, for 10,296.48 acres of land conveyed to Robert Proctor, and asking that the deed be canceled and a new deed be made to Robert G. Cook and David G. Proctor for the same land, they being the parties in whose behalf the entry was made. The Secretary was instructed to correspond with Mr. Swann and with M. A. Williams, Esq., to ascertain whether the deed to Robert Proctor was ever delivered.

The bond of John Price, Jr., Special Agent in Duval county for the collection of stumpage, was presented, approved and ordered on file.

The Governor laid before the Board a letter from Hon. H. T. Lykes, of Hernando county, asking the removal of C. T. Jenkins as special agent in that county for the collection of stumpage, together with several affidavits going to show that Mr. Jenkins was engaged in the timber business and that he had encouraged other persons in trespassing upon United States lands. Several letters from Mr. Jenkins were received denying the different charges brought against him. The Salesman was instructed to write to Mr. E. J. Berry, Timber Agent for the State, requesting him to go to Hernando county and investigate all the circumstances in connection with the complaint against Mr. Jenkins, and report the same to the Board.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, March 27, 1880.

**The Board met in the Executive Office.**

**Present:** George F. Drew, Governor.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The bond of W. D. Finlayson, Special Agent in Levy county for the collection of stumpage, was presented, approved and ordered placed on file.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, April 1, 1880.

The Board met in the Office of Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

Present: Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The account of Haley T. Blocker for \$100 for services in March as State Agent in the investigation of Swamp Lands, was presented, approved and ordered paid.

The account of James M. Baker for professional services in the U. S. Circuit Court in the case of Francis Vose et al. vs. The Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund et al., and the account of Charles W. Jones for arguing before the Supreme Court of the United States the motion for the advancement on the docket of the Railroad cases, were presented.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer pay \$250 on account to James M. Baker, and the same amount to Charles W. Jones, for professional services.

Application was received from Samuel B. Thompson for the cancellation of the entry of the E $\frac{1}{2}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 23, Township 7, South, Range 19, East, being part of entry No. 2390 made April 13, 1858, for the reason that said tract has never been confirmed to the State of Florida, but has been conveyed to the Florida Railroad Company under the act of Congress of May 17, 1856, and the said application being accompanied with a deed reconveying said lands to the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund; it was *Ordered*, that the entry of said tract be canceled, and that the Treasurer refund to the said Samuel B. Thompson one hundred and nine 49-100 dollars, the amount paid by him for said land.

The account of William P. Denham for \$6.67 for expenses of the Salesman's office was presented & approved.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, April 8, 1880.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The following accounts were presented and approved:

George P. Raney, for services in the Supreme Court of Florida obtaining reversal of judgment in the case of Benbow, Sheriff, vs. Marquis & Co., involving 398 saw logs; and for traveling expenses to Jacksonville attending U. S. Court, and for telegrams, \$45.08.

M. A. Williams, commissions on sales during the month of March, \$405.36.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, April 19, 1880.

The Board met in the Comptroller's Office.

Present: Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The Attorney General laid before the Board a communication from J. B. Wall, Esq., Attorney for the Tampa, Peace Creek and St. Johns River Railway Company, requesting that the Trustees agree to reserve from sale the alternate sections within six miles of their road when a survey of their route is filed. The Attorney General prepared a letter in answer to said communication, explaining why the reservation asked for cannot be made by the Trustees; which letter was read and approved by the Board.

The Attorney General laid before the Board a letter from C. D. Willard, Esq., of Washington, D. C. giving a statement respecting the present conditions of Railroad suits in the Supreme Court of the United States, and calling attention to the fact that a writ of error sued out by D. P. Holland had not been prosecuted.

The following resolution was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the Attorney General be instructed to take such action as may be necessary to secure the dismissal in the Supreme Court of the United States of the writ of error sued out by D. P. Holland to the Supreme Court of the State of Florida in the case of D. P. Hol-

land, appellant, vs. The State of Florida and others, appellees.

The Secretary laid before the Board a letter from Henry C. Whitney, Esq., Attorney of the Gainesville, Ocala and Charlotte Harbor Railroad Company, asking that the Board reconsider their former action refusing to withdraw the alternate sections along their entire line of road from market until the question is presented to the U. S. Court, and also in not adopting the details of construction presented by said Company. Which letter was read and consideration thereof postponed.

The bill of the "Eastern Herald" Palatka, for advertising, amounting to \$17.50, was approved—

The bill of C. A. Bryan, Clerk, for affidavits of Witnesses in Swamp Land investigation, and approving bonds, \$16.75 was approved.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: C. DREW, President pro tem.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Jacksonville, Florida, April 21, 1880.

The Board met at the Duval House.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

Samuel A. Swann, Esq., appeared before the Board and a conference was held with regard to undertaking a sale of three millions of acres of land at thirty cents per acre with certain modifications of the terms upon which the State lands are usually sold; and after considerable discussion the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

*Be it Resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, That Samuel A. Swann, Esq., the Special Agent of this Board, be authorized to negotiate the sale of three millions of acres of land, to be taken in bodies of not less than 25,000 acres, at thirty cents per acre, on the following terms, to wit:*



Twenty per centum of the purchase money to be paid on or before the first day of July next; upon which payment, the purchaser shall be allowed until the first day of January next to select the lands.

Thirty per centum of the purchase money to be paid on or before the first day of January, 1881; and, upon such payment, the purchaser shall be entitled to a deed of conveyance of one million acres of land.

The remaining fifty per centum of the purchase money to be paid on or before the first day of January, 1882; upon which payment the purchaser shall be entitled to a deed of conveyance for the remaining two millions of acres selected by him.

In case of the payment of the twenty per centum on or before the first day of July next, and a failure to pay the thirty per centum on or before the first day of January, the purchaser shall not be entitled to a return of the twenty per centum paid in, but shall take from the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund a conveyance of such quantity of land, to be selected by him, as can be purchased with the money paid in at regular prices. In case of the payment of the twenty per centum on or before the first of July, and the thirty per centum on or before the first day of January next, and the conveyance of one million of acres, and a failure to pay the remaining fifty per centum on or before the first day of January, 1882, then the Trustees shall be relieved from any obligation for the conveyance of the remaining two millions acres, except upon the payment of the regular prices therefor, and the fifty per centum already paid in shall be retained by the Trustees as the price of the one million acres conveyed.

S. I. Wailes, Esq., Agent of the State at Washington for the adjustment of land claims, appeared before the Board, and a conference was had with respect to the payment to him in lands for securing patents to the State; and also with regard to the manner of conducting the Swamp Land Investigation now in progress for the purpose of obtaining indemnity for Swamp Lands sold by the United States.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, April 28, 1880.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

The Governor laid before the Board a series of resolutions adopted by the citizens of Gainesville on the 19th instant, expressing sympathy with and confidence in the Gainesville, Ocala and Charlotte Harbor Railroad Company, and pressing upon the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund to use all their power in aid of the immediate construction of said railroad.

The Attorney General laid before the Board similar resolutions adopted by the citizens of Palatka.

The Attorney General having prepared a bond for the signature of the Trustees upon an appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States from certain orders made in the United States Circuit Court at Jacksonville in the case of Francis Vose et al. vs. The Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund et al., said orders being for the allowance to said Francis Vose of certain fees, costs, and expenses of litigation paid by him, the said bond was executed by the said Trustees.

Wm. Miller, Special Timber Agent at Choctawhatchie Bay, having returned his statements of moneys collected for stumpage from September, 1879, to February, 1880, inclusive, and it being impossible to ascertain upon what particular class of State lands the timber had been cut, the moneys were apportioned between the School and Internal Improvement Funds as follows: One-tenth to the School Fund, and nine-tenths to the Internal Improvement Fund.

An application was received from William O. Ames to have refunded to him the purchase money paid by him November 16, 1868, for the  $W\frac{1}{2}$  of  $NW\frac{1}{4}$  &  $NE\frac{1}{4}$  of  $SW\frac{1}{4}$  Section 6, Township 20, South, Range 24, East, amounting to \$62.92 and 50 cents for revenue stamp, as appears by the certificate of Frank W. Webster, then Surveyor

General, the said lands having been subsequently sold by the Trustees and conveyed by deed to another person.

*Ordered*, That said Surveyor General's certificate be canceled, and that the purchase money paid for said land by the said William O. Ames be refunded to him.

The Secretary laid before the Board the official bond of Cyprian T. Jenkins, Special Timber Agent for Hernando County, for \$500; which was approved and placed on file.

The following Special Agents were appointed for the collection of stumpage:

For Columbia County—James W. Perry.

For Suwannee County—John R. Sessions.

For Hamilton County—James M. Duncan.

For Nassau County—Peter Cone.

For Putnam County—L. G. Sibley.

On motion it was

*Ordered*, That the Salesman be authorized to have the township plats in his office mounted on cloth.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

*Ordered*, That the Salesman be authorized to have the for sale, at such times and places as the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration may appoint, the swamp lands recently patented to the State in the counties of Polk, Manatee, Monroe, Brevard and Dade, and also the Internal Improvement lands in Township 26, South, Range 36, East, and Township 37, South, Range 41, East, which have not heretofore been brought into market—and that two month's notice of such offering be given in one newspaper published at Tampa, one in Key West, one in Orange county and one in Jacksonville.

*Resolved, further*, That any person who has filed his pre-emption claim on any of said lands, under the resolution of this Board adopted February 1, 1877, shall be allowed to enter the land claimed by him on the day of offering, or within three months thereafter, upon filing with the salesman his affidavit that he settled upon and cultivated the land claimed by him, and continued the cultivation and improvement of the land up to this date, and also the affidavits of two or more witnesses as to the fact of settlement and cultivation and the character of the improvements.

Resolved, further, That any person who has settled upon any of said lands and has not filed his pre-emption claim, but who shall, on or before the day of offering, file with the salesman his affidavit, and the affidavits of two witnesses, that he has made such settlement, shall be allowed to enter the land embracing his settlement and improvements in preference to all other persons, and shall be allowed three months from the day of offering to pay for the lands.

On motion, it was

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer pay to C. W. Jones, Two hundred and fifty dollars in full for the balance due him for professional services in arguing before the Supreme Court of the United States the motion for the advancement on the docket of the railroad cases.

The following accounts were presented and approved:

George P. Raney, Expenses of trip to Jacksonville in the Railroad and Vose cases, \$9.25.

Hugh A. Corley, Traveling Expenses trip to Jacksonville and miscellaneous office expenses, \$12.70.

Columbus Drew, 2 trips to Jacksonville on official business for Trustees, \$10.00.

Walter Gwynn, Expenses trip to Jacksonville and express charges paid for stumpage money, \$9.90.

Postage account Salesman's Office, \$26.10.

M. A. Williams, Commissions on sales of land from the 1st to 27th instant, \$791.00.

On motion, it was

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer pay to James M. Baker, Esq., two hundred and fifty dollars on account of professional services in the U. S. Circuit Court in the case of Vose vs. The Trustees I. I. Fund.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, May 5, 1880.

The Board met in the Treasurer's Office.

Present: Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Land & Immigration.

The following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

*Whereas*, under the resolutions adopted by the Board on the 9th day of March last, a motion was made by the Attorney General in the United States Circuit Court at Jacksonville, for a modification of the orders in the case of Francis Vose vs. The Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund in so far as the same may interfere with the withdrawal from sale of the alternate sections of land granted to the Gainesville, Ocala and Charlotte Harbor Railroad Company under Chapter 3167 of the laws of Florida: *And Whereas*, the Hon. Thomas Settle, Judge of said Court, has set said motion down for hearing on the first Monday in June proximo, and has directed that the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund do withdraw said lands from market until said motion is argued and decided by the Court; Therefore,

*Be it Resolved*, That the Swamp lands lying within six miles of the survey of the Gainesville, Ocala and Charlotte Harbor Railroad, embraced in the odd-numbered sections, be reserved from sale until the further order of this Board under the direction of the Court.

*Be it further Resolved*, That the Salesman and the Agent for the sale of lands be instructed, in case of applications for the purchase of any of said lands, to notify the applicants of their withdrawal from sale, and that, should said lands be restored to market, the persons so applying will have the preferred right of purchasing the lands applied for at any time within sixty days after they are restored to market.

The Commissioner of Lands and Immigration laid before the Board the official Bond of James W. Perry, Special Timber Agent for Columbia County, for \$500, which was approved and ordered filed.

25 I. I.



The Board then adjourned.

President pro tem.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, May 8, 1880.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

An application was received from J. M. Murrhee for a change of entry No. 8722, made January 9, 1879, from the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 23 and NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 24, Township 7, South, Range 20, East, to the E $\frac{1}{2}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 13 in the same Township, and the application being accompanied with the affidavit required by the regulations of the Board, and the deed made by the Trustees having been surrendered and a deed made by said Murrhee re-conveying to the Trustees the lands originally entered, it was

*Ordered*, That the change of entry be allowed.

On motion, it was *Ordered*, That three hundred dollars be paid to George P. Raney for professional services as Attorney and Solicitor of the Trustees in the suit of Francis Vose vs. Trustees I. I. Fund.

The following accounts were presented and approved: George P. Raney, for traveling expenses to Jacksonville to attend the U. S. Circuit Court, \$9.50.

Hugh A. Corley, for traveling expenses to Jacksonville on business of the Board, \$9.50.

Hugh A. Corley, for extra clerk hire during the months of March and April, \$20.00.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida,  
May 19th, 1880.

The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund met in the Executive Office.

Present: Geo. F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
Geo. P. Raney, Atty. Genl.

The Board proceeded to the consideration of an application on behalf of the Gainesville, Ocala and Charlotte Harbor Railroad Company for some action by the Trustees toward the consummation of an arrangement between the Trustees and said Company and the creditors of the Internal Improvement Fund for the release of the lands from the indebtedness against the Fund, so as to enable the said Company to obtain the benefit of the grant of lands made in the 5th section of "an act to grant certain lands to the Gainesville, Ocala and Charlotte Harbor Railroad Company," approved March 4th, 1879.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

*Be it Resolved, By the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, That the Board will agree to any sale to the Gainesville, Ocala and Charlotte Harbor Railroad Company of the lands mentioned in the fifth section of the act approved March 4th, 1879, entitled, "An Act to Grant Certain Lands to the Gainesville, Ocala and Charlotte Harbor Railroad Company" that may be agreed upon between the said Company and the creditors of the Fund, or which may be fixed by an order to be made by the U. S. Circuit Court in the case of Francis Vose vs. Trustees Internal Improvement Fund.*

*Provided, however, That the price of such lands shall not be under ten cents per acre and Provided further,*

That no lands shall vest in said Company before they shall be paid for nor shall any part of said lands be reserved from sale for a longer period than sixty days, nor shall more lands be reserved at any one time from sale before payment therefor than one hundred thousand acres; *And provided further*, That no lands shall be reserved from sale except as sections of ten consecutive miles of railroad are graded and furnished with cross ties as provided in said act.

*And provided further*, That for every forty miles of road so graded and furnished with cross ties, ten miles shall be fully completed, ironed and equipped, and in actual operation.

*Be it further resolved*, that this resolution is not to be taken as a precedent as to any other company in so far as the minimum price is concerned.

It is further understood, that any order to be made by the United States Court fixing the price of lands as above provided shall be made at Jacksonville in this State at the Court to be held in June A. D. 1880.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President. •

Attest:

GEO. P. RANEY,  
Secretary pro tem.

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Tallahassee. Florida,  
May 24th, 1880. 11 o'clock A. M.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Hon. Geo. F. Drew, Governor.

Hon. Geo. P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hon. Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

The following *Resolution* was unanimously adopted:

*Be it Resolved*, That there be added to the Resolution passed by the Board at its meeting on the 19th inst. in the matter of the Gainesville, Ocala, and Charlotte Harbor Railroad Company, at the foot thereof, the following to wit:

"And it is further understood and provided that no order made by the court fixing the price of lands either at

or above ten cents per acre shall be binding upon the Board, if they shall file in said Court, or with the Clerk thereof within ten days after the date of such order, a copy of any resolution the Board may pass, dissenting from such order."

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
GEO. P. RANEY, Secretary pro tem.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 31st, 1880.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Geo. F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
Geo. P. Raney, Atty. Genl.

The Atty. Genl. was apptd. Secy. pro tem.

The following accounts were approved and ordered paid:

Account of Philip Walter, Clerk U. S. Circuit Court for taxing costs in the case of Schutte vs. J. P. & M. R. R. Co. et als. one dollar (\$1.)

Geo. P. Raney for amount paid for telegram to Gainesville, Ocala & C. H. R. R. Co. at Gainesville notifying it of May 24th, 1880, one 38-100 dollars (\$138-100).

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW, President.  
GEO. P. RANEY, Atty. Genl. Sec. pro tem.

Tallahassee, Florida, June 21, 1880.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.  
Geo. P. Raney, Attorney General.

The Commissioner of Lands and Immigration laid before the Board a communication from the General Land Office at Washington stating that Lot No. 1, Section 5,

T. 64 S. R. 37 E., selected for the State as Swamp and Overflowed Land, is also embraced in the homestead entry of Cephas Pinder made November 17, 1874; that the evidence in the General Land Office is not sufficient to determine the character of the tract; and inquiring whether the State desires an investigation, in which case an investigation will be ordered.

The Commissioner of Lands and Immigration was instructed to notify the Commissioner of the General Land Office that in this case the State will not ask for an investigation respecting the character of the land.

The Commissioner of Lands and Immigration laid before the Board a communication from Samuel A. Swann, Esq., enclosing a proposition from James Hastings, of England, for the purchase of three millions acres of land, and the draft of an agreement to be executed by the Trustees for the purpose of carrying out the purchase and sale. Said papers were placed on file. Inasmuch as the proposition made claims six months in which to investigate and ascertain the right of the Trustees to sell the land, before making the first payment, which would carry the execution of the preliminary work beyond the term of office of the present Trustees, the Board instructed the Secretary to notify Mr. Swann that the present Board are unwilling to bind their successors for the carrying out of so important a contract; and furthermore that the proposed purchasers should first satisfy themselves with respect to the title and powers of the Trustees before submitting a proposition to purchase.

The account of E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, for May, 1880, amounting to \$85.60, was presented & approved.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, June 26, 1880.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Atty. General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.



The Attorney General laid before the Board an order made in the United States Circuit Court in Jacksonville in the words following to wit:

United States Circuit Court  
5th Circuit, Northn Dist of Fla  
In Equity.

Francis Vose

vs.

Trustees Internal Improvement  
Fund of Florida et als.

It is ordered in this cause that all orders heretofore made herein so far as the same in any manner conflict with the right of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund to withdraw from sale the alternate sections of land granted by the Legislature of Florida by the Act of 1879 to the Gainesville Ocala and Charlotte Harbor R. R. Company are vacated and said Board are authorized to withdraw the same on such terms as may be reasonable and just and in accordance with said act; and it is further ordered that the said Board are authorized to make any sale to said Rail Road Company of the lands granted or proposed to be granted to said company by the fifth section of said Act at not less than thirty cents per acre and on such terms as to the construction of the road as may seem reasonable and proper and in accordance with the said act. Provided however that sale may be made as low as twenty cents per acre upon said Company executing bond with securities for the prompt and proper construction of the entire road to be approved by said Board. Done and ordered in open Court June 16th, 1880.

THOMAS SETTLE,

Judge.

Ordered by the Board that the Resolutions adopted on the 5th of May last reserving from sale the odd numbered sections within six miles of the surveyed route of the Gainesville, Ocala & Charlotte Harbor Railroad be continued until the further order of this Board.

The Secretary laid before the Board a communication from Henry C. Whitney, Esq., Solicitor of the Gainesville, Ocala and Charlotte Harbor Company, submitting details of construction of said road which was laid upon the table.

Williams & Swann presented their acct for the balance due to them under their contract of March 1873 for the selection of Swamp lands amounting to Nine Thousand Four Hundred and Three Dollars and Eight cents which was approved by the Board and the Salesman was instructed to allow the said Williams & Swann to select and enter lands in payment of said account on the following terms to wit: Swamp lands at one dollar per acre and Internal Improvement lands proper at their appraised valuation that is to say at not less than one dollar and twenty five cents per acre.

The Secretary laid before the Board a letter from John C. Chambers President of the Midland Railway, Drainage and Canal Company, asking whether or not they can purchase lands at sixty cents per acre in bodies of twenty thousand acres. The secretary was instructed to inform Mr. Chambers that he or his company can purchase Swamp Lands from the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund at sixty cents per acre provided they will take the lands in compact bodies of five thousand acres.

The Salesman laid before the Board certain papers filed by Isaac E. Barwick protesting against the issuing of a deed to J. W. Hagan for the South East quarter of the North East quarter Sec. 30, T. 20 South Range 23. East, upon entry made by him on the 4th of last March (Entry No. 9153) he the said Barwick alleging that his application for the land accompanied with the tender of the purchase money was prior to that made by Mr. Hagan the papers were referred to the Attorney General.

Upon the motion of the Commissioner of Lands & Immigration a district of territory to be assigned to the special timber agent at Manatee was determined to be fixed by the following limits to wit: to embrace all of Township thirty two in Hillsborough County and all west of Range twenty-three in Manatee County.

Ordered, that the Salesman notify D. Isaac Craft of the change made by the Board.

A letter was received from H. F. Hammon asking the extension of time upon a contract heretofore made by him with the Board of Trustees for the reclamation of certain swamp and overflowed lands.

Ordered, That the Secretary of this Board inform Mr. Hammon that their official term will expire on the first of January next and that they are unwilling to extend a contract which would bind their successors to carry out a project which possibly their successors might not approve.

On Motion, Mr. Gwynn was requested to write to the President of the Lake Jesup, Osceola and Kissimmee River Rail road & Transportation Company, to enquire what progress they are making in their work.

The Secretary was instructed to correspond with Mr. Isaac Coryell respecting the wagons & teams purchased by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement fund to be used in the swamp land indemnity investigation.

The following accounts were presented and approved:

Tampa Tribune for advertising Swamp & I. I. Lands brought into market, \$25.00.

Florida Agriculturist, Do., \$50.00.

C. A. Bryan, Jr., Binding Vol. 6 Copp Land Owner, \$1.50.

Hugh A. Corley, Expenses of trip to Jacksonville attending U. S. Court and Miscellaneous Office expenses, \$22.96.

George P. Raney, expenses of trip to Jacksonville attending the U. S. Court, \$8.00.

M. A. Williams, Commissions on sales in May, \$372.36.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, July 1st, 1880.

The Board met in the Treasurer's Office.

Present: Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner L. & I.

An account was presented in behalf of H. T. Blocker for One Hundred and Twenty two 30-100 Dollars for services rendered as Special Agent in the investigation of Swamp lands during the month of May last, and Contingent expenses of said Investigation.

It was Ordered that the Treasurer pay to Mr. Blocker fifty dollars on account of his services as aforesaid and notify Mr. S. I. Wailes of said payment.

The Board then adjourned.

C. DREW, President pro tem.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, July 5, 1880.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner Lands & Immr.

A letter was received from Mr. D. L. Yulee, President of the Peninsular Railway Company, stating the progress of the road with a reasonable hope that the same will be completed to Ocala by the first of December next, and inquiring as to the appointment of an engineer to examine the work of construction; and also suggesting that as the work is still progressing, it may be the wish of the Trustees to defer the inspection until another section is completed, which, is desired, will be satisfactory to the Company.

The Secretary was instructed to reply to Mr. Yulee that the Board expect to designate Mr. H. S. DuVal, State Engineer, to inspect the work of construction, and that the Board do prefer to defer the inspection until another section is completed.

The account of Charles E. Dyke for printing for the Salesman's Office, and for advertising, amounting to \$110.50 was presented and approved.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, July 7, 1880.

The Board met in the Comptroller's Office.

Present: Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The Bond of Peter S. Harllee as Special Timber Agent was presented and approved.

On motion, the order heretofore made placing Township 32, South, in the district assigned to Mr. Harllee was rescinded, and the district fixed on that part of Manatee County lying West of Range 23.

The following bills were presented and approved:

C. A. Bryan, binding Record of Deeds, \$5.00.

M. A. Williams, Coms. on sales in June, \$602.14.

Key of the Gulf, publishing advertisement of Swamp and I. I. Lands brought into market, \$30.00.

On motion, Thomas Osteen was appointed Special Timber Agent for Taylor County.

The following order which was made on the 26th June and which was omitted in the record of the minutes was ordered to be inserted here:

It appearing that there is a balance due to Williams and Swann for the selection of Swamp Lands under their contract with the Trustees of March 4, 1871, amounting to \$9,403.08, payable in cash with 20 per cent discount, or in lands at one dollar per acre, *It is Ordered*, that the Salesman permit Williams and Swann to enter lands in satisfaction of the above stated balance at the following prices, to wit: Swamp Lands at one dollar per acre, and Internal Improvement Lands at their appraised value.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: COLUMBUS DREW, President pro tem.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.



Tallahassee, Florida, July 8, 1880.

The Board met in the Office of the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

Present: Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The Attorney General laid before the Board a communication from J. B. Wall, Esq., Attorney for the Tampa, Peace Creek and St. Johns Railroad Company, requesting a guarantee from the Trustees that titles will be made to the Company upon the construction of the road in compliance with the terms of the act granting lands to said Company, in other words, that they be assured that the failure to file their plat or survey of route within the year will not interfere with their obtaining titles upon the building of the road. And asking further, if the construction of the road is actually commenced in good faith, will the Trustees consent not to resist an injunction against them to restrain them from selling to other parties until the meeting of the Legislature, when an extension of time will be made.

Mr. Raney prepared a letter in reply to said communication which was read and unanimously approved by the Board; and it was ordered that said letter expressing the opinion of the Board and also the letter of Mr. Raney upon the same subject dated April 19, 1880, be spread upon the minutes.

These letters are as follows, to wit:

Attorney General's Office,  
Tallahassee, Florida, April 19, 1880.

Hon. J. B. Wall,  
Atty. Tampa, P. C. & St. Johns R. R. Co.,  
Tampa, Fla.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of the 12th inst. reached me Saturday morning.

Sec. 4 of the "Act to grant certain lands to the Tampa, Peace Creek and St. Johns River Railroad Company" approved March 4, 1879, provided that "upon the filing with the Board of Trustees by said Company of the sur-

vey of the route which may be selected by said Company, or any twenty miles thereof, the Trustees shall withdraw, at the election of said Company or its President, the odd or even numbered sections within such limits along or opposite the route or section thereof of twenty miles so surveyed, from sale: Provided, however, That the same shall be restored to sale by the Board if the survey of the entire route is not filed within twelve months from the passage of this Act."

In your letter you state that the route of the road was surveyed and located for thirty three miles and the survey filed last year, and that since then negotiations have been pending between the original incorporators and a northern Company for the transfer to the latter of the charter and franchises; that the fact that this matter had not been settled and that the original Company was wholly unable to build the road was the only reason why the survey was not completed within the year. You also say that the transfer has been made, and the present Company are making arrangements for the early construction of the road, and are desirous of having the lands withdrawn from market. You ask us to inform you if the Trustees will place a liberal construction on the Act, and withdraw these lands from market if the survey is at once completed.

The Board of Trustees will always be glad to do every thing they legally can to encourage the development of the country, and particularly by the construction of railroads in the parts of the State having none and needing them as in this case. I find however after a careful examination of the authorities bearing on the question that the fourth day of March A. D. 1880 was the last day in which the survey could have been filed and have secured a withdrawal, and that the view which includes this day (instead of excluding it) is based upon the liberality of the Courts in protecting against forfeitures. For us to go any further would be a plain violation of the Statute for which we could find no support. This is not the first time this question has been before the Board. Under the Language of the Statute I can see no room for construction after the fourth day of March A. D. 1880 had passed, there being no saving clause in the Act as to the Company's inability to build the road.

Altho it is immaterial to the question now it is proba-

bly better that I should state, that in the letter of February 18th, 1879, transmitting the map of the thirty three miles to which you refer the President of the T. P. C. & St. J. R. R. Co. (Mr. John T. Lesley) after asking that the lands along and adjacent to the line marked on such map be withdrawn says "I do not submit this map to be *filed* but as a guide to having the lands withdrawn along the route as far as surveyed. The remaining portion of the route will be completed as fast as possible when the whole route will be submitted and filed as the law directs."

The "Gainesville, Ocala and Charlotte Harbor Railroad Company" filed a survey of its entire route within the time prescribed by the Statute, and after consulting with Mr. Whitney their attorney the lands along the route from Gainesville to Palatka were withdrawn—but not any other lands, it being deemed advisable by both him and the Board to defer any further action in the premises till the present month, when it is proposed to raise certain questions in the U. S. Courts for adjudication.

We do not see that we can extend the time prescribed by the Legislature for filing the survey and securing the withdrawal of the alternate sections *from sale*.

This has been read to and approved by the Board.

I have the honor to be

Very respectfully your

Obt. Servt.,

GEO. P. RANEY.

Attorney General's Office.

Tallahassee, Florida, July 8, 1880.

Hon. J. B. Wall,

Atty. Tampa Peace Creek & St. Johns R. Railway  
Co., Tampa, Fla.

Dear Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge your communication 24th ulto. In my last to you on the subject of the withdrawal from sale of the alternate sections of land granted the above named company by chapter 3168 Laws of Florida is a full statement of the views of the Board of Trustees upon their power to make the withdrawal, these views have undergone no change. The failure of the Company to file the survey renders it impossible for us to make the withdrawal. Had any withdrawal been made upon the basis of the survey of a small portion of the route sent by

your President (with instructions not to file it) the statute would have still imposed the duty of restoring them to sale on the failure to file the survey for the entire route *within twelve months from the passage of the Act.*

The lands which, had you filed the survey would have come under the withdrawal provisions, now in default of such filing stand under the law open for sale to the first person offering to buy and tendering the price.

Should you file a survey now and proceed to construct the road as contemplated by the Act, we think that you would be entitled to such alternate sections within the six mile limit of each section of ten miles as had not been sold previous to the completion of the grading and laying of the crossties. Provided however that for every forty miles so graded and cross-tied, Ten Miles shall be completed, ironed and equipped. We cannot give any guarantee against purchasers intervening prior to such construction, nor any individual guarantee against the interposition of creditors of the fund in opposition to the above views.

Should any suit be brought in any court other than the U. S. Circuit Court for the Northern District of Florida to enjoin us from selling the alternate sections we would feel it our duty to plead that the U. S. Court has the jurisdiction of the questions involving the fund by virtue of its receivership and orders in the Vose case under which we are now acting and we should further feel it our duty to lay before any court the facts as to the survey not being filed.

Should any court in the face of this showing enjoin the sale which we do not believe any court would do, we should feel bound to appeal from the decision unless the creditors of the fund were satisfied that the reservation should be made; we should also feel it to be our duty anyhow to have the question settled as to whether or not while the Vose suit is pending any other Court can administer the fund.

I have the Honor to be

Yours very Resp..

GEO. P. RANEY.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: C. DREW, President pro tem.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, July 17th, 1880.

The Board met in the Treasurer's Office.

Present: Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

The Attorney General laid before the Board the following order of the United States Circuit Court for the Southern District of New York, to wit:

In the Circuit Court of the United States.

For the Southern District of New York.

In Equity.

David L. Yulee

vs.

Francis Vose.

On Motion

for Injunction.

(Two Motions)

Present:

Hon. Samuel Blatchford

Circuit Judge.

New York, July 13th 1880.

In this cause two motions coming on to be heard, to en-  
 • join the defendant from proceeding with his action at law  
 in this court against the Complainant as an endorser of  
 twenty-seven certain promissory notes made by the Flori-  
 da Railroad Company to Vose, Livingston & Company, for  
 five thousand dollars each, described in the Bill of Com-  
 plaint herein; and from selling or disposing of one hun-  
 dred and ninety five bonds and coupons of said Florida  
 Railroad Company, known as Internal Improvement Fund  
 Bonds and Coupons described in said Bill of Complaint,  
 and deposited as collateral security with said Notes,—  
 pending the hearing and determination of this cause.

And the Court having heard Edward N. Dickerson,  
 Esq., on behalf of the complainant and Edwin W.  
 Stoughton, Esqr., and J. C. B. Drew, Esq. on behalf of  
 the defendant.

It is now Ordered,

That the said Francis Vose be and he hereby is, en-  
 joined from proceeding any further in his said action at  
 law against the said David L. Yulee, and from selling or  
 negotiating the sale of any of said bonds or the coupons  
 belonging thereto, or any judgment founded upon any of



said coupons into which said coupons may have been merged until the final determination of this action.

Dated, New York, July 14th, 1880.

(Signed) SAML. BLATCHFORD.

(( ( ) ) )

( SEAL )

A Copy.

(( ( ) ) )

JOHN J. DAVENPORT,  
Clerk.

Whereupon it was

*Resolved*, That neither the Board its Salesman nor Agents shall receive any of the Bonds or Coupons mentioned in said order, or any judgment founded thereon in payment for lands belonging to the Internal Improvement Fund, or for any other purpose until the further order of the Board.

*Resolved*, That the Hon. David L. Yulee, the complainant in said suit, and M. A. Williams, Esq., Agt of the Board at Jacksonville be immediately notified of the above resolution.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: C. DREW, President pro tem.  
GEO. P. RANEY, Secretary pro tem.

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Tallahassee, Fla., July 24, 1880.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Geo. F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

Geo. P. Raney, Atty. Genl.

The Atty. Genl. was apptd. Secy. pro tem. The communication of Hon. Jas. M. Baker, of counsel for the Board in the Vose case, to the Atty. Genl. as to the record for the appeal in the matter of Mr. Vose's petition for costs and expenses was read and the Attorney General authorized to instruct Mr. Baker to perfect the appeal and to forward the clerk's bill for the record and that the same would be paid.

The Secretary pro tem was directed to notify Mr. I. Coryell, that no more sales of any of the property pur-

26 I. I.

chased by the Board for Swamp Land Indemnity Investigations must be made except for cash and that on such sales being made the cash must be remitted to the Treasurer of the Board; provided, however, that sales may be made on credit if the authority of the Board should be hereafter obtained. And the Secretary pro tem was further instructed to request Mr. Coryell to forward to the Treasurer of the Board the acceptances received by him for sales of said property already made, but to state to him that the receipt by the Board of such acceptances should not be understood as relieving Mr. S. I. Wailes or any one, of his responsibility for the property so sold, unless said acceptances should be paid at maturity as such sales were not authorized to be made on credit.

The Board adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW, President.

GEO. P. RANEY, Secy. pro tem.

Tallahassee, Florida, August 9, 1880.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

An application was received from Andrew M. O'Quinn for the change of entry No. 8333 made by him November 6, 1877, from the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 22, T. 30, S. R. 16 E., to the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 22, T. 30, S., R. 15 E., on account of an error in said entry; and the said Andrew M. O'Quinn having returned the deed made to him by the Trustees, and having executed a deed reconveying the first named tract to the Trustees I. I. Fund, and having made the affidavits required by the Rules and regulations of this Board in such cases, *It was Ordered*, that the change of entry be allowed as requested.

A communication was received from the Receiver at the U. S. Land Office at Gainesville enclosing a letter from the Commissioner of the General Land Office at Washington announcing that the State Selection of Lot No. 1,

Sec. 5, T. 64 S., R. 37 E, as Swamp land was held for rejection, the State authorities having notified that department that they do not desire an investigation respecting said tract, and are willing that the homestead claim of Cephas Pinder thereto be confirmed; which letter was read and placed on file.

The Salesman of the Board, Hugh A. Corley, reported that, in accordance with the resolutions of the Board, he had, on the 19th July, offered for sale at St. Lucie, in Brevard county, the lands of the Internal Improvement Fund in Dade & Brevard counties recently confirmed and patented to the State embraced in Patents Nos. 19 & 20, Swamp Selections, and List No. 1 Internal Improvement Selections in the late St. Augustine, now Gainesville Land District.

The Secretary laid before the Board a letter from E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, recommending that stumpage on cord-wood on Suwannee river be suspended for the present, for the reasons that the parties there engaged in cutting cord-wood are very poor, that they get only \$1.50 per cord for their wood, and cannot afford to pay stumpage of 25 cents per cord.

*Ordered.* That the stumpage on cord wood to be delivered on the Suwannee river be reduced to 15 cents per cord—this reduction to continue until the first day of January next, and the further order of this Board.

The Secretary laid before the Board a letter from the St. Johns and Lake Eustis Railroad Company stating that said road is now completed, and inquiring what further steps are now necessary to secure deed for the lands granted to said Company; which letter was read and referred to the Attorney General.

The Secretary laid before the Board the Bond of Thomas Osteen, Special Agent in Taylor county for the collection of stumpage, said bond being for \$500 with Wm. R. Perry, Thomas J. Faulkner, W. H. Towle and W. H. Gainey as sureties: Said Bond was approved and ordered placed on file.

The Attorney General read a letter from Mr. James M. Shomaker inquiring whether the Trustees will aid the construction of a railroad from Jacksonville to Tampa Bay, and was requested to reply that the Trustees will ex-

tend such aid as they are authorized by law to do, and so far as they can under the orders of the courts.

The Secretary was instructed to write to Mr. I. Coryell and request him to transmit to the Treasurer of the Board the acceptance received by him for the sale of horses and mules employed in the Swamp Land Indemnity Investigation.

D. I. Craft, Special Timber Agent for Hillsboro' county, having paid in for stumpage \$77.21 on lands not described, it was ordered, that 20 per cent thereof be placed in the School Fund and the remainder in the Internal Improvement Fund, this order to be subject to the approval of the Board of Education.

Notice having been received that probably the Fund will soon receive from Washington an amount of Land Certificates or floats issued as indemnity for Swamp Lands located with Land Warrants, in the U. S. Land Offices prior to March 3, 1857, it was unanimously

*Resolved*, That whenever the Board shall receive from the United States Government certificates or warrants as indemnity for lands located in the United States Land offices, under the Acts of Congress of March 2, 1855, and March 3, 1857, said certificates or warrants will be disposed of by this Board at the same prices which are fixed for lands, the scale of prices for warrants to be the same as for the same quantity of Swamp Lands.

On motion, it was ordered, that James M. Baker, Esq., be paid two hundred and fifty dollars on account of professional services as Attorney & Solicitor.

The following accounts were presented and approved:

M. A. Williams, Coms. on Sales in July, \$79.30.

E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, Expenses in June, \$81.25.

E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, Expenses in July, \$47.50.

South Florida Citizen, Advertising, \$25.00.

Florida Union, Advertising, \$31.50.

Postage for Salesman's Office, \$49.20.

Hugh A. Corley, Salesman, Expenses of trip to St. Lucie and back to offer lands for sale, \$59.25.

Hugh A. Corley, Salesman, cash paid for telegrams and office expense, \$8.12.

The account was presented of Mr. Mahlon Gore, Proprietor of the Orange County Reporter for advertising Swamp and I. I. Lands brought into market amounting

to \$45. The Board approved the acct. to \$30 and disapproved the rest. The Board then adjourned.

President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, August 17th, 1886

The Board met at the Attorney General's Office.

Present: C. Drew, Comptroller.  
Geo. P. Raney, Atty. Genl.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

A Bill of H. T. Blocker for seventy two 30-100 Dollars for services as special agent of swamp lands investigation during months of May and April being the balance of his bid of One Hundred & Twenty two 30-100 Dollars dated June 1, upon which fifty dollars had been paid under order of this Board. Said Balance \$72.30 was ordered paid.

The Board then adjourned.

C. DREW,  
President pro tem.

Attest:

GEO. P. RANEY,  
Secretary pro tem.

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Tallahassee, Florida, August 23d, 1886.

The Board met in the Executive Chamber.

Present: Geo. F. Drew, Governor.  
C. Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
Geo. P. Raney, Atty. General.

The following communications from Mr. I. Coryell were laid before the Board by Hon. Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.



Jacksonville, Augt. 20th, 1880.

Walter Gwynn, Esq.,  
State Treas.,

Dear Sir:

I have the honor to make the following report and return of joint property sold by me.

|                                                     |        |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------|
| One pair mules (recd Drft. & paid) .....            | 300.00 |
| One horse (recd. Drft. \$100 paid & cash \$50.....) | 150.00 |
| One mare (recd. Drft .....                          | 150.00 |

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|                     |          |
|---------------------|----------|
| Inclosed find ..... | \$600.00 |
|---------------------|----------|

|                                        |        |
|----------------------------------------|--------|
| H. P. Robinson's acct. June 23 6 mos.. | 104.00 |
|----------------------------------------|--------|

|                                       |       |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| E. W. Agnew acct. June 22 90 days.... | 50.00 |
|---------------------------------------|-------|

|                                   |                 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| My check on Bk. Jacksonville..... | 296.00—\$450.00 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|

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|                                       |          |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Leaving a balance in my hands of .... | \$150.00 |
|---------------------------------------|----------|

to cover the expenses of 2 mos. care, repairs to wagons & harness—hire of drivers and travelling expenses as paid out by me.

The balance of the property is covered by the following orders

Jacksonville, Augt. 20th 1880.

Dr. Kendrick will please deliver to Walter Gwynn, State Treas. or order One pair black mules—one pair Bay Horses—Three Wagons and three sets harness now at your farm and one heavy farm wagon under Agnews's shed at Ocala.

& Oblige  
I. CORYELL

The stock are running in pasture at an expense of \$5 per week which includes storage for wagons & harness, I found it impossible to sell for cash at that time. Sept. or Oct. will bring a demand when cash sales can be effected, I have placed the following value on the unsold

|                                   |          |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Black Mules .....                 | \$300.00 |
| Bay Horses .....                  | 300.00   |
| 3 Spring Wagon.....               | 40.00    |
| Carryall & Harness .....          | 100.00   |
| Light farm wagon .....            | 75.00    |
| Heavy farm wagon (in Ocala) ..... | 75.00    |
| 2 sets Harness.....               | 30.00    |

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\$920.00

which prices they should bring if properly sold. If I understand the letters from Coms. of land office I suppose the intention was to take the remaining property in possession & to have no more responsibility in the matter of either care or sale. The order gives you possession.

Truly,

I. CORYELL,

Whereupon the Treas. Hon. Walter Gwynn was instructed to address the following letter to Mr. Coryell

Tallahassee, Florida, Augt. 23d, 1880.

I Coryell, Esq.,

Jacksonville, Fla.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of 20th inst., with enclosures was received on Saturday. We had no meeting of the Board of Trustees that day, but concluded after consultation with Mr. Raney it was best to send forward the check for \$296.00 on Bank of Jacksonville, and did do.

The Governor is here to-day and we have just had a meeting of the Board. Of course you understand that the Board of Trustees recognize you only as the agent of Mr. Wailes, whom this Board understands to desire that the proceeds of all sales of the personal property used in the indemnity investigations, should be paid over to it. All collections made on your draft and the acceptances, will of course be placed to the credit of the amount advanced to purchase the property.

The Board will not take your order on Dr. Kendrick as a delivery of the property. If it is the purpose of Mr. Wailes, (with whom we will communicate at once) to turn over the property to it, it will have to send an agent to inspect the same before receiving it. In the meantime it looks to Mr. Wailes for the proper care of the property.

Please refer again to the correspondence & see if you are not mistaken as to the Board's intentions to take its property out of Mr. Wailes' possession.

We do not agree that the \$150 should have been retained by you, but do think that you should have sent an itemized statement of expenses—such was the expecta-

tion of the Board. Is Dr. Kendrick allowed to use the animals &c?

Yours respectfully,  
WALTER GWYNN,  
Treas. I. I. Fund.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:  
GEO. P. RANEY,  
Secretary pro tem.

Tallahassee, Florida, September 18, 1880.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Geo. P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Comr. of Lands & I.

The following bills were presented, approved and ordered paid:

Philip Walter, Clerk U. S. Circuit Court for making record on appeal in case of F. Vose vs. Trustees I. I. Fund & other Court expenses \$298.25. C. H. Foster Clerk of the Supreme Court of Florida costs in the case of W. A. C. Benbow vs. Marquis & Co. \$12.75-100. Geo. P. Raney expenses trip to Jacksonville attending U. S. Court in Rail Road cases \$6.50, E. J. Berry Timber Agt. for expenses in August \$124.80.

The Secretary laid before the Board a communication from John C. Chambers, President of the Midland Railway, Drainage & Canal Company inquiring what interest the State of Florida would pay for a loan of one Million of Dollars. The State giving Ten Millions of acres of land as security for the same but said security to remain under the control of the State for the purpose of sales, &c., and also making further inquiries with reference to the Vose claim against the Internal Improvement Fund, which letter was referred to the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration for reply.

A letter was received from W. Hallett Phillips of Washington City dated Sep. 11th, 1880, making inquiries

respecting the free Land bonds issued by the Florida Rail Road Company. The Secretary was instructed to reply to Mr. Phillips that the Internal Improvement is in no-wise responsible for either the principal or the interest of the Free Land Bonds issued by said Company. That the said Bonds were secured or attempted to be secured by mortgage upon the Lands granted by the United States and by the State to aid in the construction of the Florida Rail Road, and that further information concerning the same can be obtained by corresponding with the land commissioner of the Fla. Rail Road Company at Fernandina.

Letters were received from Samuel A. Swann enclosing letters from James Hastings of England respecting the sale of a million acres of land which letters were referred to the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration for a reply.

Col. E. A. Protois Agent of the United States for Investigating the swamp land indemnity claim of the State of Florida made an application to the Board for the purchase of the team of mules and the waggon and harness now owned by the Board proffering to pay for the same three hundred dollars and also applying for the use of the horse team and waggon for the use of the State Agent in making the investigation which proposition the Secretary was instructed to refer to S. I. Wailes State Agent in Washington.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved that the Attorney General do prepare a Bond or Stipulation to be executed by the Trustees and proper securities for the payment of all fees to which the Clerk of the United States Supreme Court or the successors may at any time be entitled in the matter of the appeal from the decrees of the U. S. Circuit Court Northern Dist. of Florida making allowances of moneys to Francis Vose for costs and expenses in the case of F. Vose et al. Vs. Trustees Internal Improvement Fund et als and that the same be executed.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secy.

Tallahassee, Fla., September 30th, '80.

The Board met in the Treasurer's Office.

Present: Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

Geo. P. Raney, Atty. General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commr. of Lands & I.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:  
*Resolved*, That the Treasurer advance to the Attorney General four hundred Dollars to be transmitted to the Clerk of the Supreme Court of the United States in Washington as security for costs in the appeal by the Trustees from the orders and decrees of the U. S. Circuit Court for the Northern District of Florida allowing certain costs and expenses to Francis Vose in the suit now pending between the said Vose and said Trustees.

The Board then adjourned.

President pro tem.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secy.

Tallahassee, Florida, October 12, 1880.

The Board met in the Treasurer's Office.

Present: Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

Application was received from Joseph W. Boring for a change of entry No. 7255, made December 24, 1875, of the  $W\frac{1}{2}$  of  $NW\frac{1}{4}$  Section 6, T. 21 S, R 35, E, to the  $W\frac{1}{2}$  of  $NE\frac{1}{4}$  Section 1, T 21 S, R 34 E, and said application being accompanied with the required affidavit and a deed of reconveyance, it was

*Ordered*, That entry No. 7255 be canceled, and that the purchase money be applied as far as it will go to the entry by said Joseph W. Boring of the  $W\frac{1}{2}$  of  $NE\frac{1}{4}$  Section 1, T 21 S, R 35 E.

Applications were received for the cancellation of the following entries, which were allowed and the purchase money ordered refunded on the first named:

Entry No. 9029,  $NW\frac{1}{4}$  of  $NW\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 7, T 35 S, R 18 E, made by William C. Brown November 25, 1879.

Entry No. 9393,  $NE\frac{1}{4}$  of  $SW\frac{1}{4}$  Section 12, T 28 S, R 31 E, made by Williams & Swann August 5, 1880.



The bond of James M. Duncan as Special Agent for the collection of stumpage in Hamilton County was presented, approved and ordered filed.

The following accounts were presented & approved:

*Hugh A. Corley*, Expenses of trip to Monroe, Manatee and Polk Counties bringing lands into market, and for telegraphing & stationery, \$96.90.

*Miss Sue M. Archer*, for mounting on cloth 844 township plats in the Land Office @7c, \$59.08.

*C. A. Bryan, Jr.*, Binding Salesman's Certificates, \$2.50.

*George P. Raney*, Express charges in sending \$400 to the Clerk of the U. S. Supreme Court at Washington, \$2.00.

*Postage account* Salesman's Office, \$53.68.

*James T. Magbee*, Publisher Tampa Guardian, publishing notice of lands brought into market, \$25.00

*Walter Gwynn*, Express charges on moneys sent by the Special Timber Agents, \$1.50.

The Board then adjourned.

C. DREW,  
President pro tem.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, November 13, 1880.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The Governor laid before the Board a letter from the Commissioner of the General Land Office requesting a relinquishment of the apparent title of the State to the fractional SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , or Lot No. 2, Section 2, T 34, S, R 17 E, which had been patented to the State as Swamp land, but which was entered at the U. S. Land Office by Thomas Peterson February 27, 1847; and a deed relinquishing the right, title and claim of the State in and to said tract of land was executed by the Trustees.

The Governor laid before the Board a letter from the Commissioner of the General Land Office requesting a relinquishment of the apparent title of the State to the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  and SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 13, T 13, S, R 22 E, said tracts not being claimed by the State nor reported to the General Land Office, but nevertheless having been patented to the State as Swamp Lands. The NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of said section having been purchased from the Trustees February 17, 1877, by George G. Smith and Thomas B. Smith (Entry No. 7926) the Secretary was instructed to write to the purchasers and request a reconveyance of said Tract to the Trustees in order that the same may be relinquished to the United States. The Trustees executed a deed surrendering to the United States the right, title and claim of the State in and to the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of said Section.

Upon application of the purchasers the following entries were canceled and the Treasurer directed to refund the purchase money therefor:

Entry No. 8763 by John Vinzant, Jr., made February 18, 1879, Lot No. 3 and S $\frac{1}{2}$  Lot No. 4, Section 30, Township 30, South, Range 20, East, 131.17 acres—Amount of purchase money \$104.93.

Entry No. 8959, by John W. Green made August 30, 1879, Lot No. 3, Section 10, Township 5, South, Range 25, East, 30 acres—Amount of purchase money \$30.00.

Entry No. 8721, David J. Lee, made December 21, 1878, SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 26, Township 7, South, Range 13, East, 40 acres—Amount of purchase money \$40.00.

The following change of entry was allowed:

Entry No. 6519 by Malcolm M. Overstreet made August 4, 1873, from the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 29, Township 25, South, Range 29, East, to the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 29, Township 26, South, Range 29, East.

The Attorney General reported back the papers in the case of the contest of I. E. Barwick against the entry by John W. Hagan of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 30, T. 20, S, R 23 E, and the Board decided to issue a deed to Mr. Hagan. *Ordered*, That the Secretary notify Mr. Barwick of the decision.

The Commissioner laid before the Board a letter from the Commissioner of the General Land Office with respect to the unconfirmed Internal Improvement selections, and

suggesting that if it is desired that the unconfirmed selections made prior to "Gainesville List No. 1" be considered as adjudicated and declared void, that the Trustees relinquish to the United States all claim the State may have in such selections, and transmit the same to the General Land Office. The Commissioner was instructed to prepare a relinquishment in accordance with said suggestion.

The Commissioner laid before the Board a letter from S. D. McConnell, Esq., inquiring how to get a contract from the Trustees for clearing out the Withlacoochee river up to Panasofkee Lake so as to make it navigable for steam-boats. The Secretary was instructed to reply to Mr. McConnell that the Trustees have no power or authority under the laws of the State to contract for removing obstructions to navigation in the rivers.

The following bills were presented for expenses incurred in the Swamp Land Indemnity Investigation:

Haley T. Blocker, for services as Special Agent and traveling expenses in Sept. and Oct., \$204.15.

Wm. Hurter & Co., of Jacksonville, provisions, \$18.34.

Robert J. Kendrick, pasturage and care of stock and storage of wagons, \$96.42.

Said accounts were postponed until the arrival of Mr. S. I. Wailes:

A letter was received from Col. E. A. Protois, U. S. Agent for examining Swamp lands, inquiring whether he would be permitted to retain the use of the wagons and teams of the State in the further prosecution of his investigation. The Secretary was instructed to telegraph him to retain the teams until Mr. Wailes should arrive, and afterwards subject to Mr. Wailes' approval.

The Secretary laid before the Board a letter from Peter S. Harlee, Special Timber Agent in Manatee county, stating that the State's Attorney in that district claims that stumpage cannot be charged for dead and fallen pine on State lands, and asking further instructions respecting the collection thereof; which letter was referred to the Attorney General.

A letter was received from Robert Morrow asking that the State relinquish its claim to Lot No. 1, Sec. 3, T 45 S, R 43 E, selected as Swamp land but not yet patented to the State, said tract having been entered under the Home-

stead Act of Congress by W. H. Moore in May, 1874, and he having made his final proof as required by the laws of the United States.

*Ordered.* That the Commissioner withdraw the claim of the State for said tract of land.

The Board proceeded to the consideration of a communication from Col. A. J. Lane, President of the Saint Johns and Lake Eustis Railroad Company, accompanied with the certificate and affidavit of W. P. Couper, Civil Engineer, showing that the road had been completed and is in operation from Astor, on the St. Johns river, to Fort Mason on Lake Eustis, and giving the details of construction. The Salesman was instructed to prepare a deed for the signature of the Trustees conveying to said Company the lands granted to them by an Act of the Legislature approved February 20, 1879, entitled "An Act to incorporate the St. Johns and Lake Eustis Railway Company," (Chapter 3169, laws of Florida) said deed to be placed in the hands of the Attorney General for delivery after reporting the execution thereof to the U. S. Circuit Court.

Mr. Samuel A. Swann, of Fernandina, appeared before the Board, in response to their request, and conferred with them respecting a proposition made by Gen. H. S. Sanford to purchase lands at reduced prices. The proposition of Gen. Sanford was to purchase from 500,000 to 1,000,000 acres at thirty cents per acre, payable in cash or coupons. Certificates or Warrants to be issued for these lands in quantities from 40 to 640 acres, to be located upon any of the lands offered. Payment to be made as follows: \$150,000 by April 1881—remainder within one year thereafter. Certain lands in Orange county, (200,000 or 300,000 acres) to be reserved, and others to be reserved as designated. After some time spent in considering the proposition, the Board declined to accept the terms, and instructed the Secretary to notify Gen. Sanford of the decision.

The following accounts were presented & approved:

E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, expenses for the months of September and October, \$103.75.

M. A. Williams, Commissions on Sales for the months of August, September & October, \$126.05.

Wm. T. Webster, furnishing plats for the Salesman's Office, \$4.00.

C. E. Dyke, Printing, July, Aug., Sept. & October, \$40.00.

L. G. Sibley, Sheriff of Putnam County, Expenses &c in seizure of timber cut by Starrat & Wright, \$24.75.

H. A. Corley, for telegram, \$1.40.

W. D. Bloxham, formerly Secretary of State, for commissions as Notaries Public to Special Agent, for investigating Swamp land claims, \$8.00.

Samuel A. Swann, Traveling expenses from Fernandina to Tallahassee and back at the request of the Trustees, \$21.50.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, December 1, 1880.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

The following accounts were presented and approved:

Walter Gwynn, Traveling expenses to Lafayette county as witness against Seth Stevens in a suit to recover moneys received for timber cut on State lands, \$14.65.

M. A. Williams, Commissions on sales in November, \$2.90.

The Governor laid before the Board a letter from the Commissioner of the General Land Office requesting a relinquishment of the State's title to the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 1, SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 2, NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 11 and NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 12, Township 3, South, Range 21, East, which had been patented to the State as swamp lands, but which had been entered at the United States Land Office, under the pre-emption law, by Joshua Geiger, July 14, 1856, which entry was confirmed by the Act of Congress of March 3, 1857. The Commissioner of Lands



and Immigration reported that the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 1 and NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 11 of said township were conveyed to the Florida Atlantic and Gulf Central Railroad Company under the act of January 6, 1855, and that the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 2 and the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 2 have been sold to William E. Jackson. The Commissioner of Lands and Immigration was instructed to notify the Commissioner of the General Land Office that the said tracts have been sold and passed out of the control of the State authorities.

The Commissioner laid before the Board a letter from the Commissioner of the General Land Office, inclosing a copy of a letter from that office to the Register and Receiver of the U. S. Land office at Gainesville, rejecting the swamp selection of Lot No. 1, Sec. 3, T 45 S, R 43 E, entered under the homestead act by William H. Moore, the said selection having been withdrawn under instructions from the Trustees I. I. Fund.

The Salesman reported that, in accordance with the instructions of the Board, he had offered for sale the swamp lands embraced in Patents 17, 18, 19 and 20 of the former Tampa, now Gainesville, Land District, lying in Monroe, Manatee and Polk counties, at the following times and places, to wit:

The lands in Monroe county, at Fort Myers, August 16.

The lands in Manatee county, at Pine Level, August 30.

The lands in Polk county, at Bartow, September 6.

The attention of the Board was called to an act of Congress approved June 9, 1880, as follows, to-wit:

An Act to confirm certain entries and warrant locations in the former Palatka Military reservation in Florida.

*Be it Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That in all cases in which lands lying within the limits of the former Palatka military reservation in Florida have been entered by settlers under the homestead laws, and their entries are found to conflict with selections by the State of Florida under the grant of swamp lands by act of Congress of September twenty-eight, eighteen hundred and fifty, which are confirmed by the act of March third, eighteen hundred and fifty-seven, and in which said settlers have in good faith complied with the requirements of the homestead laws, their entries be, and

the same are hereby confirmed, on the State filing with the Commissioner of the General Land Office its relinquishment of all claim thereto; and the State shall thereupon be entitled to select in lieu thereof an equal quantity of land from any of the vacant and unappropriated public lands of the United States in Florida, and patents shall be issued to the State for the lands so selected in lieu of the tracks taken by the settlers.

*Sec. 2.* That in all cases in which lands lying within said reservation have been entered at private entry or located by military land-warrants, and which conflict with said selections, the same are also hereby confirmed on the State relinquishing all claim thereto; and the State shall thereupon be entitled to indemnity in the same manner as indicated in the first section of this act.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

*Resolved,* That this Board request the Governor to recommend to the Legislature at the next session that the claim of the State be relinquished to the swamp lands within the former Palatka military reservation which have been entered by settlers under the homestead laws and in which said settlers have in good faith complied with the requirements of said laws, or which have been entered at the United States Land Office at private entry or located with military land-warrants.

The Commissioner of Lands and Immigration laid before the Board a telegram from Col. E. A. Protois, at Leesburg, stating that Mr. C. F. Hopkins declines to proceed with the swamp investigation since informed that the Trustees cannot provide for the payment of his salary, and requesting that some person be sent on to represent the State.

*Ordered,* That the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration confer with Haley T. Blocker and employ him to accompany Col. Protois if his services can be procured.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

27 I. I.

Tallahassee, Florida, December 4, 1880.

The Board met in the Treasurer's Office.

Present: Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

Entry No. 9403, made by Williams & Swann, deed made to John M. Hall, was, upon the application of said John M. Hall, changed from the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 34, Township 6, South, Range 14, East, to the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of the same section.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

President pro tem.

Tallahassee, Florida, December 9, 1880.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The Governor laid before the Board a letter from E. N. Dickerson, Esq., Attorney for D. L. Yulee, giving notice that the injunction heretofore granted in the United States Circuit Court for the Southern District of New York, at the suit of David L. Yulee vs. Francis Vose, restraining said Vose from taking any proceedings under the decree in his favor against the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, has been dissolved. Whereupon, the resolution adopted on the 17th July last, not to receive the bonds or coupons held by Mr. Vose in payment for lands was rescinded.

Gen. H. S. Sanford appeared before the Board and conferred with them respecting a purchase of lands upon the following terms:

250,000 or 300,000 to be selected in bodies of not less than 640 acres and paid for in 90 days—the lands to be reserved as selected.

Other lands, making, with the other, 500,000 acres to be selected and to be purchased within a year at the option of Gen. Sanford.

Land certificates to be issued for 500,000 acres more in from 40 to 640 acre tracts, with the option to purchase within one year.

Prices to be as low as the Board will consent to accept.

Some time was spent in discussing the proposition, and the matter was postponed for further consideration.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, December 10, 1880.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The Board resumed the consideration of Gen. Sanford's proposition for the purchase of land.

Mr. Corley offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Trustees will sell to Gen. H. S. Sanford two hundred and fifty thousand acres of swamp lands to be selected by him in bodies of not less than acres, to be paid for in ninety days at fifty cents per acre in coupon certificates; and as selections of said land shall be made by him, they shall be reserved from sale until the whole quantity is selected and until the time hereinbefore limited. If the whole quantity of 250,000 acres shall not be selected and paid for by the expiration of ninety days, the privilege hereby granted shall be null and void.

Mr. Raney moved to fill the blank with "2560" which was not agreed to.

Mr. Gwynn moved to fill the blank with "six hundred and forty."

Upon which the vote was:

Yeas—Gov. Drew, Messrs. C. Drew, Gwynn & Corley—4.

Nay—Mr. Raney—1.

So the blank was filled with "six hundred and forty," and the resolution was adopted—Mr. Raney dissenting. The Board then adjourned.

Attest: GEO. F. DREW, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, December 18, 1880.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

A letter was received from Messrs. Cockrell & Walker, Attorneys of William Caulk and William H. Caulk, heirs at law of I. D. Hart, deceased, enclosing a copy of a certificate made by the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration that on the 9th day of December, 1857, the said I. D. Hart purchased from the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund Lot 1 of Section 31, T 19 S, R 31 E, containing 73 84-100 acres, and requesting that the Trustees make a deed to said land.

The Board declined to make the deed as requested.

The Governor laid before the Board a notice from the Register and Receiver of the U. S. Land office at Gainesville, that the testimony in the Swamp land contest case of John O. Morgan in respect to Lot No. 4 Sec. 23 and Lot No. 1 Sec. 26, T 43 S, R 27 E, shows that said lands are not swamp and that said selections are therefore held for rejection.

A letter was received from Gen. H. S. Sanford, asking the Board for the assurance that land certificates to the amount of 1,000,000 to 1,500,000 acres will be sold to him at 40 cents per acre, which assurance the Board declined to give.

A petition was received from several citizens of Polk county requesting that the Board surrender the claim of the State to the unconfirmed Internal Improvement Selec-



tions in that county. As this had already been done, the petition was placed on file without further action.

The Attorney General prepared a receipt to be signed by the Trustees for the Apalachicola Arsenal with the grounds, buildings and appurtenances thereunto belonging, which was signed, and in the words and figures following, to wit:

**"STATE OF FLORIDA."**

"Received of the Secretary of War of the United States, the public property with the grounds, buildings and appurtenances thereto belonging situated in Gadsden county in the State of Florida, and known as the "Apalachicola Arsenal" or "Chattahoochee Arsenal," said property having been decreed and granted by the United States to the State of Florida by an act of Congress entitled "An Act donating Chattahoochee Arsenal to the State of Florida for educational purposes," approved December 15th, A. D. 1870, said act styling said property as the "Chattahoochee Arsenal," situated as aforesaid, and as being at the date of said act occupied by said State as a penitentiary. And said act directing the Secretary of War to transfer said property to the Board of Internal Improvement of said State" to be held by them in trust for the use, benefit and execution of the purposes of this grant, or for such other public purposes as said Board may deem proper." The "grounds" being the land reserved by the President of the United States for the "Apalachicola Arsenal" in Gadsden county aforesaid, the buildings and improvements thereon and the lands and rights embraced in a deed of J. W. King, Attorney for Daniel Matchett, dated February 17th, 1834, to wit: the right forever to the use of a wharf erected by the United States on the premises of said Matchett, situated on the river Apalachicola, in Lot No. 2, Section 32, Fractional Township 4, Range 6, N. & W., and also the right forever to the causewayed road leading to the same."

"Devenber 18, 1880."

"GEORGE F. DREW, Governor."

"COLUMBUS DREW, Comptroller,"

"WALTER GWYNN, Treasurer,"

"GEO. P. RANEY, Attorney General."

HUGH A. CORLEY, Commissioner of  
Lands and Immigration."

“Ex-officio Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida.”

The Attorney General also filed a certified copy of the deed of J. W. King, Attorney for Daniel Matchett, referred to in said receipt, which deed is as follows:

### TERRITORY OF FLORIDA.

This indenture made the seventeenth day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four, and in the fifty-eighth year of the independence of the United States of America, between Joseph W. King (Attorney for Danl. Matchett) of the county of Gadsden, of the one part, and Capt. John Hills, of the Ordnance Department, of the other part: Witnesseth, that the said Joseph W. King, for and in consideration of the sum of one dollar in hand paid, at and before the sealing and delivery of these presents, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, hath granted, bargained, sold, aliened, conveyed and confirmed, and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell, alien, convey and confirm unto the President of the U. S. and his successor in office, the right forever to the use of a wharf erected by the United States on the premises of the said Matchett, situated on the river Apalachicola in Lot No. 2, Section 32, Fractional Township 4, Range 6, N. & W and also the right forever to the causewayed road leading to the same. To Have and to Hold the said privilege to the described premises to the said Danl. Matchett being, belonging or in any wise appertaining, to the only proper use, benefit and behoof of the United States of America: And the said Joseph W. King, Attorney for Danl. Matchett, his heirs, executors and administrators, the said bargained premises unto the said United States, against the said Danl. Matchett, his heirs, executors and administrators, and all and every other person or persons, shall and will warrant and forever defend by virtue of these presents. In Witness Whereof, the said J. W. King hath hereunto set his hand and affixed his seal the day and year first above written.

J. W. KING (L. S.)

Signed, Sealed & delivered  
in the presence of

R. H. STEWART.

EDWD. FACE.

State of Florida }  
Gadsden County } ss.

I, Robert C. Lester, Clerk of the County Court for the county aforesaid, do hereby certify that R. H. Stewart, whose name is subscribed to the within deed of conveyance as a witness, personally appeared before me in my office and made oath that Joseph W. King, whose name is thereunto subscribed, did in his presence acknowledge that he signed, sealed and delivered the same for the purposes mentioned therein, and that he saw Edwd. Face sign as a subscribing witness. Whereupon, I have duly recorded the same in Book B, page 37.

In Testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of office this 22nd day of February A. D. 1834.

(L. S.)

R. C. LESTER, Clk.

By T. J. KENAN, D. C.

Know all men by these presents, That whereas, I, Daniel Matchett, of Baltimore, State of Maryland, am seized in fee of and in certain tracts and lots of land situated in Gadsden county, Territory of Florida, late in the possession of John McCulloh, Esq., of said county and Territory aforesaid: Now, Know Ye, that I, the said Daniel Matchett, have made, constituted, and appointed Joseph W. King, of said Gadsden county, to be my true and lawful attorney, for me and in my name to lease any or all my said tracts or lots of land, as well as houses or tenements on the same, in said Gadsden county, as aforesaid, to such person or persons, for a term not exceeding one year, and at such yearly or other rents as the said King may think fit, and to receive all such rents or arrears of rents which now are or may hereafter become due, to me, and upon receipt of such rents or rents to give proper acquittances and sufficient discharges thereof, and in default of payment thereof, or any part thereof, to my said Attorney, I do hereby authorize and empower him, my said Attorney, for me, and in my name, to proceed by suit or suits at law for the recovery thereof, as by the said Attorney shall be thought fit; and also for me and in my name, as, my act and deed, to sign, seal, execute and deliver such deeds and conveyances for the leasing or the absolute disposal of any lot or tract, or any part thereof, with such clauses,

covenants and agreements to be therein contained as my said attorney shall think fit and expedient. Hereby ratifying and confirming all such leases, deeds, conveyances, bargains and sales, which shall at any time hereafter be made by my said attorney touching or concerning the premises. In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this twenty-first day of September, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-three.

DANL. MATCHETT. ( L.S.)

Signed, Sealed & delivered

in presence of

John H. Magher.

D. O. Harrison.

(L. S.)

State of New York.

City and County of New York } S S:

By this public instrument, Be it Known to all whom it may concern, That I, William H. Maxwell Commissioner in and for the State of New York, duly commissioned by the Governor of the Territory of Florida, (by virtue of an act of the Legislature of the said Territory entitled "An Act to authorize the appointment of Commissioners, &c. passed January 24th, 1831," and therein and thereby authorized and empowered "to take the acknowledgement of any deed, contract, letter of Attorney, mortgage or conveyance of any lands, tenements and hereditaments, lying or being in the Territory of Florida, or any other writing under seal, to be used in said Territory, with full power and authority to administer oaths and affirmations, take depositions," &c.) Do hereby certify, that on the 21st day of September, A. D. 1833, Before me, said Commissioner, personally came Daniel Matchett, proven to my satisfaction to be the grantor named and described in the annexed letter of attorney, and having made known to him the contents thereof, he acknowledged he had truly signed, sealed and delivered and executed the same for the uses and purposes therein mentioned.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year above written.

WM. H. MAXWELL,

Florida Commissioner.

Recorded this 5th day of March, A. D. 1834.

R. C. LESTER, Clk. G. C. C.

By T. J. KENAN, D. C.

*Territory of Florida, Gadsden County, ss.*

I, Thomas J. Kenan, Clerk of the County Court for the county aforesaid, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true transcript of the Letter of Attorney from Daniel Matchett to Joseph W. King, as recorded in my office.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and annexed the seal of said Court this 12th day of May, A. D. 1834.

(L. S.)

T. J. KENAN, Clk.

Territory of Florida {  
Gadsden County. } SS.

I, Thomas J. Kenan, Clerk of the County Court for the county aforesaid, do hereby certify that there is no incumbrance, judgment, lien or transfer of any kind whatever, upon that part of a tract of land Danl. Matchett's known as Lot No. 2, Sec. 32, Fr. Township 4, Range 6, N. & W., which was purchased from Joseph W. King, Attorney for Danl. Matchett, by Captain John Hills, of the Ordnance Department, for the United States, as appears from the records of my office.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of said Court, this 12th day of May, A. D. 1834.

(L. S.)

T. J. KENAN, Clk.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
WAR DEPARTMENT

Washington City, November 20th, 1877.

Pursuant to Section 882 of the Revised Statutes, I hereby certify that the annexed papers are true copies of the originals in the office of the Chief of Ordnance of this Department.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the Seal of the War Department to be affixed, on the day and year first above written.

(L. S.)

GEO. W. McCRARY,  
Secretary of War.

The Attorney General also filed a plat of the lands reserved for the Apalachicola Arsenal, and which was granted to the State by the Act of Congress of December 15, 1870, together with the field notes of the survey thereof. It was *Ordered*, That said papers be filed, and



that a copy of said plat or diagram be placed upon the records of the Board.

Which is done on the following page of this record book.

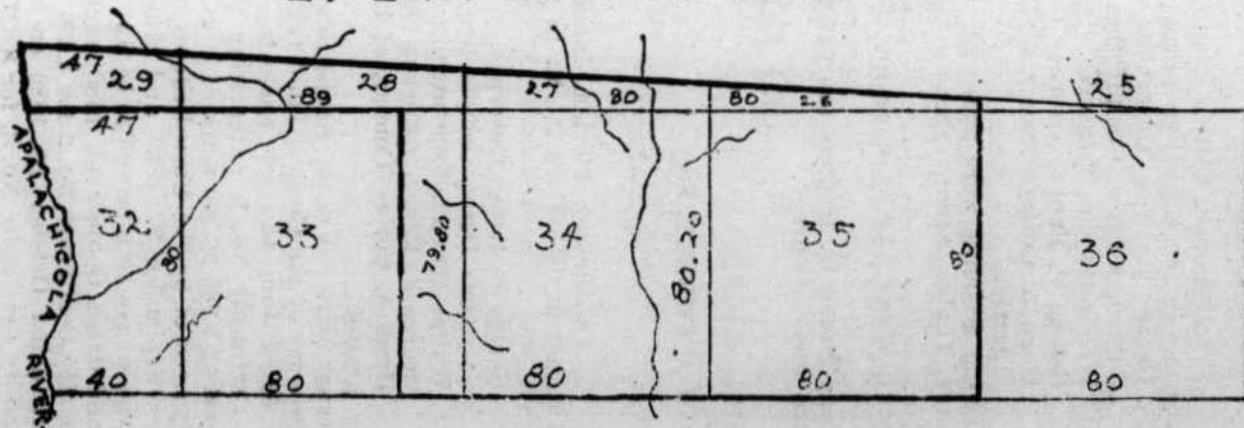
The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

# T. IV. R. VI. N. & W.



Tallahassee, Florida, January 3, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commr. of Lands & Immigration.

The following accounts were presented and approved:

E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, expenses for November, \$57.25.

E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, expenses for December, \$87.00.

W. Gwynn, Treasurer, Express charges paid, 50 cents.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secy.

Tallahassee, Florida, January 4, 1881.

The Board met at 10 o'clock A. M. in the Executive Office.

Present: George F. Drew, Governor.

Columbus Drew, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General

Hugh A. Corley, Commr. of Lands & Immigration.

The Governor delivered to the Board three letters from the Commissioner of the General Land Office:

The first dated June 16, 1880, enclosing Swamp Land Indemnity Certificate No. 1, authorizing the State of Florida to select 9,999 20-100 acres of U. S. Land in lieu of lands disposed of by the United States by warrant locations since September 27, 1850, and prior to March 3, 1857, and which have been proved to be Swamp land.

The Second dated October 14, 1880, enclosing Swamp Land Indemnity Certificate No. 2 for 4,656 71-100 acres.

The Third dated October 16, 1880 enclosing Swamp Land Indemnity Certificate No. 3, for 8,627 64-100 acres.

The three certificates aggregating 23,283.55 acres.

These certificates having been procured through the services of Sidney I. Wailes, of Washington, the State Agent for the adjustment of land claims, and said agent being under his contract entitled to twenty per cent. thereof in compensation for his services amounting to 4,656.71 acres, and Certificate No. 2 embracing just that quantity, *It was Ordered*, That the Swamp Land Indemnity No. 2 embracing 4656.71 acres be assigned to the said Sydney I. Wailes, and that he be constituted the Agent of the State for the selection and entry thereof, at his own expense, and that whenever the selection and entries shall be made by him and patented to the State under said certificate, the Trustees will convey the land so selected and patented to the said S I. Wailes or his assigns.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. F. DREW,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, January 10, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

His Excellency, Governor William D. Bloxham was elected President of the Board.

The claim of E. J. Berry for his salary for two thirds of the month of September amounting to \$83.33 was presented, the same having been suspended for investigation, and it being the opinion of the members of the Board that no just cause existed why it should be withheld, it was *Ordered*, that said claim be paid.

On motion, it was ordered that E. J. Berry be employed temporarily as Special Timber Agent at a salary of one hundred dollars a month to commence from the day when he leaves on discharge of his duties.

The Board then adjourned.

W. D. BLOXHAM,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, January 13, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The following resolution was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the Swamp Land Indemnity Certificates which have been received, or may hereafter be received, from the government of the United States under the act of Congress of March 3, 1857, shall be sold at the same prices which a purchaser is required to pay for the same quantity of swamp lands; and the purchaser shall be constituted the agent of the State for the selection and entry of lands under his certificate, but upon the express condition that all the expenses of such selection and entry shall be paid by him; and when any lands selected and entered by any purchaser as aforesaid, shall be patented to the State, this Board will convey said lands by deed to said purchaser. In payment for said Swamp Land Indemnity Certificates, the coupon certificates issued by A. Doggett, Special Master, shall be received, as in sales of lands, requiring the payment of twenty per cent. in currency. *Provided*, that when a purchaser shall, at any one time, purchase certificates embracing more than 15,000 acres, the whole amount may be paid in coupon certificates.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: W. D. BLOXHAM, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.



Tallahassee, Florida, January 22d, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.  
Columbus Drew, Comptroller.  
Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The Treasurer laid before the Board a letter from Mr. I. Coryell stating that he had sold a wagon to Robert Calvin for \$75, and in September had sent to the Treasurer a check for that amount; that when Mr. Calvin called for the wagon, it had been taken and carried away by Col. Protois in the Swamp Land Indemnity investigation; and that Mr. Calvin wants the money returned.

*Ordered*, That the Treasurer return to Mr. Coryell the \$75 paid on account of the sale of said wagon, so that the said amount may be returned to Mr. Calvin.

Application was received from Ichabod C. Hall and John W. Hagan for change of entry No. 8903 made June 10, 1879, from the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 4, Township 19, South, Range 22, East, to the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 9, in said township, and the said application being accompanied with the papers required under the regulations, and the tract applied for not being State land; it was *Ordered*, that said entry be canceled and the purchase money (forty dollars) be refunded.

Entry No. 9543, of Lot No. 1, Section 3, Township 43, South, Range 43, East, made by Thomas P. McKenna November 18, 1880, was canceled, and the purchase money (\$45.04) ordered refunded; the said Lot having been claimed as a pre-emption by Abner Wilder, and the proof having been made and purchase money forwarded within the time prescribed in the pre-emption regulations, and Mr. McKenna having returned his deed for cancellation.

The following resolution was adopted:

*Whereas*, the Legislature have now under investigation the policy of selling the timber upon the State lands.

*Resolved*, That the issuing of permits to cut timber on the State lands be suspended until the Legislature shall give an expression of opinion upon the system, or until the further order of this Board.

A statement and petition was received from J. G. Speer, President of the Apopka Canal Company, showing what work had been done and is now in progress and the moneys expended under their contract with the Trustees of February 25, 1879, and, also stating that by reason of unforeseen hindrances they had been unable to complete the work contracted for within the time limited in the contract. Mr. Speer also appeared before the Board in person and gave a verbal statement respecting the work performed and in progress and all matters connected therewith.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

*Resolved*, That the time allowed to the Apopka Canal Company for the performance of their work under the Resolutions adopted February 25, 1879, be extended to the first day of January, 1883, both for the completion of the canals and the reclamation of the lands.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: W. D. BLOXHAM, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, January 25, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.

W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

A proposition was received from Hamilton Disston, of Philadelphia, and others associated with him, for the drainage and reclamation of the lands, overflowed by the waters of and adjacent to Lake Okeechobee and the Kissimmee river, said parties being represented by J. A. Henderson, Esq.

The matter was referred to Mr. Raney and Mr. Henderson to prepare a contract for the consideration of the Board.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: W. D. BLOXHAM, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, January 27, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.  
 William D. Barnes, Comptroller.  
 Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
 George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
 Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The Secretary laid before the Board a statement signed by several members of the Legislature and others, citizens of East and South Florida, that the pretended survey of the Gainesville, Ocala and Charlotte Harbor Railroad filed with the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund was an imperfect survey, or, in other words, no actual survey at all, and that the withdrawal of lands from market along the route laid down on said plat is an injury to the development and interests of those sections through which such survey was supposed to have been made; and asking that such lands be restored to market.

The Secretary was instructed to furnish a copy of said statement to the persons now representing the Gainesville, Ocala and Charlotte Harbor Railroad Company.

The following resolution was adopted:

*Resolved.* That the Timber Agent, or Agents of this Board, other than those appointed for a particular county, will hereafter be required to give a bond for not less than two thousand dollars, with security to be approved by the Board, conditioned for the faithful performance of their duties.

A telegraphic dispatch was presented to the Board from Senator Wilkinson Call to R. B. Hilton, Esquire, inquiring whether, if money to pay first bonds is guaranteed or deposited, will the Trustees act in the interest of the original stock.

The following resolution was adopted:

*Resolved.* That this Board request Mr. Hilton to ask Mr. Call to lay before the Board a detailed statement of what action he proposes for the Board to take in the in-

terest of the "original stock," and what guarantee or deposit is proposed, and when the same will be made.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: W. D. BLOXHAM, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, January 28, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.

William D. Barnes, Comptroller.

Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

A communication was received from Hon. D. L. Yulee, dated January 22, 1881, enclosing copy of a deed executed on the 21st instant by the Atlantic, Gulf and West India Transit Company setting forth and assigning to the Tropical Florida Railroad Company that portion of the uncompleted line of the former Florida Railroad Company which lies between Ocala and the waters of Tampa Bay, and the extension to Charlotte Harbor; said copy being transmitted in compliance with the fourth Section of the Act entitled "An Act to amend an Act incorporating the Florida Railroad Company," approved December 14, 1855. Which was ordered placed on file.

An application was received from Richard Crosby for a change of entry No. 8438, made April 8, 1878, from the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  and SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 15, and NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 22, Township 7, South, Range 20, East, to the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  and SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 15, and NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 14 of said township, and the papers required by the rules having been executed and filed, the change was ordered as requested.

A bill for postage for the salesman's office for the present month, amounting to \$24.10 was presented and allowed.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: W. D. BLOXHAM, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, January 31, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.  
 William D. Barnes, Comptroller.  
 Walter Gwynn, Treasurer.  
 George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
 Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The following communication was laid before the Board:

Tallahassee, January 31st, 1881.

To the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund:

The undersigned hereby propose a contract with your Board for the reclamation of the lands in the valley of the Ocklawaha, and the adjacent lands subject to overflow.

We propose to commence at or near Lake Harris and Lake Eustis, and cut a canal of sufficient width and depth for purposes of navigation for all boats now plying the Ocklawaha river, to a point at or near Moss Bluff, or wherever the low, open submerged lands terminate, and the cypress swamps begin—the canal to be locked and cross canals cut wherever needed to secure efficient drainage and navigation.

We propose to begin the work on the canal by the 1st of November, A. D. 1881, the intervening time to then being occupied in making surveys and getting the machinery, and to complete the entire work of drainage within one year from that date, viz: by the 1st of November, A. D. 1882.

For the drainage of these lands we ask the same as granted by your Board to the Apopka Canal Company, viz: four-fifths of all the lands reclaimed, and the privilege of purchasing the remaining one-fifth at a specified rate per acre.

The undersigned are in possession of all the capital needed to complete this work, and are prepared to execute



it in strict compliance with the contract.

(Signed) HENRY S. SANFORD, of Florida.  
 R. F. SHELDON, of Philadelphia.  
 EDWYNN SARLIS DAWES, of England.  
 ANTHONY NORRIS, of England.  
 ALEXANDER FRASER, of England.  
 G. A. THOMSON, of England.  
 J. E. INGRAHAM, of Florida.  
 ALEX. ST. CLAIR-ABRAMS, of Florida

The Board postponed the consideration of the proposal until the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration should report the quantity of land embraced in the district proposed to be drained.

The following communication was laid before the Board:

Tallahassee, January 31st, 1881.

To the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund:

The undersigned hereby offers, for Henry S. Sanford, and his associates, to purchase one million acres of land, as follows:

Two hundred and fifty thousand acres at 40c per acre, payable all in coupons, to be located in quantities of 640 acres and upwards, the whole to be selected and paid for in ninety days from your acceptance of this proposition.

2d. Seven hundred and fifty thousand acres additional at 40c per acre payable in coupons, one half in certificates or warrants of from 40 acres and upwards, and the other half to be located in bodies of 640 acres and upwards, the whole to be paid for in one year from your acceptance of this proposition.

As fast as these lands are selected, they are to be withdrawn from the market.

It may be proper to add that Mr. Sanford and his associates propose settling these lands with immigrants immediately.

Respectfully yours,

(Signed) ALEX ST. CLAIR-ABRAMS.

After considerable discussion, the consideration of this proposition was postponed until another meeting.

A letter was received from James G. Gibbes, State Engineer, requesting the Board to take some action that will serve the purpose of designating the State Engineer as the proper party to perform the duties required of him

under the Internal Improvement Act, of January 6, 1855; which was read and laid on the table.

The Attorney General, who had been appointed with John A. Henderson, Esq., to prepare a contract to be executed by the Trustees and Hamilton Disston and others for the drainage and reclamation of lands, presented a contract, which, after being read and amended, was signed by the Trustees and placed in the hands of Mr. Henderson to be executed by the other contracting parties, the same being in duplicate.

The following accounts were presented and approved:  
M. A. Williams, Coms. on sales in December & Jany, \$177.12.

H. A. Corley, telegrams sent and received, \$4.20.

Geo. P. Raney, printing brief in case of Codrington vs. Trustees and others in the Supreme Court, U. S. & other Court Expenses, \$23.77.

Postage for Salesman's Office November & December, 1880, \$31.10.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: W. D. BLOXHAM, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, February 1, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.

William D. Barnes, Comptroller.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The Trustees having been served with a Subpoena from the United States Circuit Court for the Northern District of Florida, in the suit of the Western Division of the Western North Carolina Railroad against the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund. Aristides Doggett, The Jacksonville, Pensacola and Mobile Railroad Company, Milton S. Littlefield, the Florida Central Railroad Company and Adolph Engler, it was *ordered*, That the Solicitor of this Board procure a copy of the Bill of Complaint in said suit, enter the appearance of the Trustees

therein, and take such other steps as the case may require on behalf of the Trustees.

The Board proceeded to the consideration of the proposition of Henry S. Sanford and his associates for the purchase of one million acres of land, and the following resolution was adopted :

*Resolved*, That this Board will sell to Henry S. Sanford and his associates one million acres of the lands acquired under the act of Congress of September 28, 1850, at the average price of forty cents per acre, payable in cash or coupons at the option of the purchasers, as follows, to wit :

Two hundred and fifty thousand acres, to be located in bodies of six hundred and forty acres, or upwards, to be selected and paid for within ninety days after the adoption of this resolution, at the rate of fifty cents per acre. Whereupon, deeds will be made and delivered to the said Henry S. Sanford and his associates, or to such person or persons as they may direct, for two hundred thousand acres of the two hundred and fifty thousand acres so selected and paid for.

The remaining seven hundred and fifty thousand acres, to be located in bodies of six hundred and forty acres, or upwards, to be selected and paid for within one year after the adoption of this resolution, at the following prices: Five hundred thousand acres at forty cents per acre, and two hundred and fifty thousand acres at thirty cents per acre. Upon payment for the first two hundred and fifty thousand acres of the last mentioned seven hundred and fifty thousand acres, at forty cents per acre, deeds will be made and delivered as aforesaid for the remaining fifty thousand acres, under the first selection and for two hundred thousand acres of the last selection, upon payment for the next two hundred and fifty thousand acres at forty cents per acre, deeds will be made and delivered, as aforesaid, for all lands selected, except fifty thousand acres of the last selection. And upon payment for the last two hundred and fifty thousand acres, at thirty cents per acre, deeds will be made and delivered as aforesaid for all the remaining lands selected and paid for. All lands selected and reported to the Salesman shall be withdrawn from market until the full quantity is selected. In case of a failure to pay for the full quantity of one

million acres within the time stipulated, such lands as shall have been selected but not conveyed by deed, shall be restored to market by the Trustees, and the said Sanford and associates shall have no claim thereto nor to any moneys or coupon certificates paid in.

Should the purchasers desire it, certificates will be issued to them, in lieu of specific lands, for one half of the last selected seven hundred and fifty thousand acres, authorizing the holder to locate the same upon any of said lands, said certificates being each for the quantity of six hundred and forty acres.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: W. D. BLOXHAM, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, February 4, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.

William D. Barnes, Comptroller.

Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The Secretary laid before the Board a letter and several telegraphic dispatches from Senator Call to R. B. Hilton, Esq., conveying the information that certain parties stand ready to guarantee the money to pay the first mortgage bonds of the Pensacola and Georgia Railroad Company if the Governor and Trustees will agree to institute proceedings to sell the road and buy it in the interest of the original stock, it being agreed that for any excess of the purchase money at the sale over the amount of the balance of interest and purchase money due on the sale of 1869, the parties furnishing the money to pay the first mortgage bonds will provide it. It being also understood that they will guaranty some reasonable proportion of the county and Internal Improvement stock, to be apportioned according to the value of the property. It being further understood and guaranteed that the railroad will be extended without delay by parties of character and financial ability. Senator Call further suggested that if the

Trustees will agree to act in the interest of the original stock, and sue in the Supreme Court of the United States for the proper process to sell the road, and buy it for the original stock, he thinks it probable that the title of the road can be settled in a new company, of which a part of the stock can be held by our own people, and a part of the county indebtedness paid, and the means assured for the completion of the road to Pensacola—that if Governor Bloxham will take hold of the matter, there can be no doubt, in his (Call's) opinion, *first*, That the purchase money due on the sale of 1869 belongs to the owners of the property at the time of the sale, that is, the stockholders.

2d. That if the lien of the first mortgage debt is paid, or in any way discharged, the purchase money is payable to the stockholders, and is subject to their disposal. If all the indebtedness of the Pensacola and Georgia Railroad Company is taken up and held by the original stock, the balance of the purchase money is due and subject to the control of the original stock, and the title may be perfected in the persons furnishing the money, subject to such conditions as may be agreed on.

The letter and dispatches were read and the consideration of the same postponed to another meeting.

A letter was received from Mr. Charles P. Greenough, administrator with the will annexed of Francis Vose, deceased, enclosing two deeds for lands sold by the Trustees to said Vose, and requesting the Trustees to execute new deeds for said lands conveying them to him as Trustee for the heirs.

*Ordered*, That the Salesman return the deeds to Mr. Greenough, and state the reasons why his request cannot be complied with.

An account was presented on behalf of W. H. Walker, Sheriff of Wakulla County, for \$175 being one fourth the estimated value of cedar timber seized by him; which account was not approved.

The Secretary laid before the Board a petition from several citizens of Orange county alleging that there is no evidence in the field that Township 21, South, Range 32, East, was ever actually surveyed, and representing the inconvenience resulting therefrom, and asking that a survey of said township be made by the State, the greater part thereof being State land.



*Ordered.* That the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration inquire into and ascertain the cost of such survey, and report to the Board.

An application was received from Reuben Marsh asking for the cancellation of entries Nos. 7054, 7073 and 7074 made by him, embracing the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 23, NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 26, and the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  and NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 27, Township 16, South, Range 30, East, which lands did not belong to the Fund and were therefore illegally sold, and asking to be refunded the amount he had to pay to the United States for the entry of said lands (\$211.27) and interest thereon for six years and four months at eight per cent. (\$107.03) and amount paid for the drawing of a deed of relinquishment to the Trustees (\$5), the said deed being filed.

*Ordered.* That said entries be canceled, and that the Treasurer refund to Mr. Marsh one hundred and sixty dollars and forty cents, the amount paid by him for the purchase of said lands.

The Board proceeded to the election of a Treasurer, and Henry A. L'Engle was elected, his term to commence on the filing and approval of his bond.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: W. D. BLOXHAM, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, February 9, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.

Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

A. St. Clair-Abrams, Esq., appeared before the Board on behalf of Gen. H. S. Sanford, and requested a modification of the resolution adopted on the 1st inst. agreeing to sell him one million acres of land, so far as the said resolution provides for withholding fifty thousand acres of the selected lands until the entire quantity is paid for; the consideration of which request was postponed until another meeting.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

*Whereas*, Gen. H. S. Sanford has failed to accept the proposition of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund on the 10th December last to sell him 250,000 acres of land at fifty cents per acre, and has presented other propositions for the consideration of the Board:

*Resolved*, That the resolution of December 10th be and the same is hereby rescinded.

\* The Board then adjourned.

Attest: W. D. BLOXHAM, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, February 10, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.

Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.

Gen. P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The following resolution was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the proviso in the resolution adopted January 13, that purchasers of Swamp Land Indemnity Certificates embracing more than 15,000 acres of land may pay the entire purchase money in coupon certificates, shall apply also to the purchase of the same quantity of swamp lands.

Entry No. 9265, made by William Miller June 19, 1880, of Lots Nos. 1 and 3, Section 11, Township 2, South, Range 19, West, having been erroneously made, Lot No. 3 having been previously entered, and said lands having been reconveyed to the Trustees by the said William Miller, it was *Ordered*, That said entry be canceled and that the purchase money, amounting to seventy dollars and fifty-eight cents be refunded to the said Miller.

The account of E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, for traveling expenses during the month of January, amounting to \$48.50, was presented and approved.

Henry A. L'Engle, elected Treasurer of the Board, presented his bond, which was approved, and is in the words and figures following, to wit:

State of Florida, }  
 County of Leon. }

Know all men by these presents, That we, Henry A. L'Engle, Francis F. L'Engle and James P. Taliaferro are held and firmly bound unto William D. Bloxham, Governor of the State of Florida, and to his successors in office, for the use, benefit and protection of all whom it may at any time or does concern, in the sum of ten thousand dollars, lawful money of the United States of America, for the payment whereof well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves and our heirs, executors and administrators, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents—Signed and Sealed this ninth day of February A. D. 1881.

The condition of this obligation is such, that, Whereas, the said Henry A. L'Engle, the Treasurer of the State of Florida, has been appointed and elected Treasurer of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of said State, and required by a resolution of the Board to execute a bond in the sum of ten thousand dollars for the faithful performance of his duties as such Treasurer of said Board of Trustees: Now, if the said Henry A. L'Engle shall in all things faithfully and promptly perform and discharge his duties as Treasurer of such Board of Trustees, then this obligation shall be void, but otherwise remain of full force and virtue.

Witness our hands and seals the day and year above written:

|                  |   |                                   |
|------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| Signed & Sealed  | } | (Signed) Henry A. L'Engle, (L.S.) |
| in our presence. |   | " Francis F. L'Engle, (L.S.)      |
| (Signed)         |   | " James P. Taliaferro, (L.S.)     |
| L. A. Hardee.    |   |                                   |

The following resolutions were adopted:

*Resolved*, That for the purpose of aiding in the work of reclamation undertaken by the Apopka Canal Company, said Company are authorized to sell three thousand acres of the land which they have stipulated to drain under their contract with this Board: *Provided*, that the moneys received for said lands shall be applied exclusively to the prosecution of said work. And, in order to insure the proper application of said moneys, the same shall be paid to this Board, from time to time, as sales are made, and shall be paid out by the Treasurer upon the drafts or orders of said Company for labor done or

materials furnished in carrying on the work of reclamation. Upon payment for any of said lands as aforesaid, deeds will be made conveying the lands to the Company.

*Resolved, further,* That this Board reserves the right to designate some person as the agent of the Trustees to examine all accounts for which drafts or orders may be drawn upon the Treasurer of the Board under these resolutions, and none shall be paid without his approval.

The Board proceeded to the consideration of the proposition of Gen. Henry S. Sanford and his associates for the drainage of the overflowed lands in the valley of the Ocklawaha river, and the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

*Be it Resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund,* That Henry S. Sanford and his associates are hereby authorized to drain and reclaim the swamp and overflowed lands adjacent to Lake Harris, Lake Eustis and Lake Griffin and the Ocklawaha river between Lake Eustis and the lines dividing Townships Fifteen and Sixteen, South, to wit:

The West half of the North East quarter, the West half of the South East quarter, the South East quarter of the South East quarter, and the West half of Section Two; all of Section Three; the East half, and the South East quarter of the South West quarter of Section Ten; all of Section Eleven; the North East quarter, the East half of the South East quarter, the South West quarter of the South East quarter, and the West half of Section Twelve; all of Section Thirteen; the East half, the North West quarter, and the South West quarter of the South West quarter of Section Fourteen; the North East quarter, the East half of the North West quarter, the North West quarter of the North West quarter, and the East half of the South East quarter of Section Fifteen; the North East quarter of the North East quarter of Section Twenty-two; the North half of the North East quarter of Section Twenty-three; the East half, the North West quarter, and the East half of the South West quarter of Section Twenty-four; and the North East quarter of Section Twenty-five; in Township Sixteen, South, of Range Twenty-three, East.

The North East quarter, the North East quarter of the North West quarter, and the East half of the South East

quarter of Section Twenty-one; the North West quarter, the North East quarter of the South West quarter, and the West half of the South West quarter of Section Twenty-two; the South half of the South West quarter of Section Twenty-four; all of Section Twenty-five; the South East quarter of the North East quarter, and the North East quarter of the South East quarter of Section Twenty-six; the North East quarter of the South West quarter of Section Twenty-seven; the East half of the North East quarter, the South West quarter of the North East quarter, the South East quarter of the North West quarter of the South West quarter of Section Twenty-eight; the North East quarter of the South East quarter of Section Twenty-nine; the East half of the North East quarter, the North West quarter of the North East quarter, the North East quarter of the North West quarter, and the West half of the North West quarter of Section Thirty-five; in Township Nineteen, South, of Range Twenty-three, East.

The West half of the North West quarter, the West half of the South East quarter, and the South West quarter of Section Five; all of Section Six; the North West quarter of the North East quarter, the West half of the North West quarter, and the West half of the South West quarter of Section Seven; the North East quarter, the West half of the South East quarter, the South East quarter of the South East quarter, and the West half of Section Eight; the West half of the North West quarter of Section Nine; the West half of the North East quarter, the South East quarter, and the West half of Section Seventeen; the South half of the North East quarter, and the West half of Section Eighteen; the South half of the North East quarter, the South East quarter, and the West half of Section Nineteen; all of Section Twenty; the West half of Section Twenty-one; the North East quarter of the North West quarter, and the South West quarter of Section Twenty-five; the West half of Section Twenty-nine; the East half, the North West quarter, and the North half of the South West quarter of Section Thirty; the North East quarter, the East half of the North West quarter, and the North West quarter of the North West quarter of Section Thirty-two; the South West quarter of the North West quarter of Section Thir-



ty-three; and the South West quarter of the North East quarter, and the East half of the North West quarter, and the South East quarter, and the East half of the South West quarter of Section Thirty-six; in Township Sixteen, South, of Range Twenty-four, East.

The West half of the North East quarter, and the South East quarter of Section One; the West half of the North East quarter, the East half of the North West quarter, the South West quarter of the North West quarter, and the South West quarter of Section Twelve; the West half of the North West quarter, and the West half of the South West quarter of Section Thirteen; the East half of the South East quarter of Section Fourteen; in Township Seventeen, South, of Range Twenty-four, East.

The Lot numbered Ten of Section Twenty-five; the South half of the South East quarter of Section Twenty-six; the North half of the South East quarter, the East half of the South West quarter, and the North West quarter of the South West quarter of Section Thirty-five; and the Lots numbered One and Six, the North half of the Lots numbered Seven and eight, and the South half of the Lot numbered Ten of Section Thirty-Six; in Township Eighteen, South, of Range Twenty-four, East.

The South half of the South East quarter, and the North West quarter of the North West quarter of Section Two; the North East quarter, the South West quarter of the North West quarter, the North East quarter of the South East quarter, the West half of the South East quarter, the East half of the South West quarter, and the North West quarter of the South West quarter of Section Three; the North West quarter of the North East quarter, and the North East quarter of the North West quarter of Section Ten; the North half of the North East quarter of Section Eleven; the East half of the North West quarter, the South East quarter of the South East quarter, the West half of the South East quarter, and the South West quarter of Section Twenty-nine; the South half of the North East quarter, and the South half of Section Thirty; the North East quarter, and the West half of Section Thirty-one; the South West quarter of the North East quarter, the South East quarter of the North West quarter, the West half of the North West quarter, and the South half of Section Thirty-two; the South East quarter of the

South East quarter, and the South West quarter of the South West quarter of Section Thirty-three; and the South East quarter of the South East quarter, and the South half of the South West quarter of Section Thirty-four, in Township Nineteen, South, of Range Twenty-four, East.

The South East quarter, and the East half of the South West quarter of Section Four; the West half of the North East quarter of Section Six; the East half of the North East quarter, the North West quarter of the North East quarter, the North East quarter of the North West quarter, and the West half of the North West quarter of Section Eight; the North half of the North East quarter, and the North half of the North West quarter of Section Nine; the South half of the North East quarter, the East half of the North West quarter, the North West quarter of the North West quarter, the North West quarter of the South East quarter, and the East half of the South West quarter of Section Ten; in Township Twenty, South, of Range Twenty-four, East.

The South West quarter of the South West quarter of Section Nineteen; the North West quarter of the North West quarter, and the North West quarter of the South West quarter of Section Thirty; the South West quarter of the North West quarter, the West half of the South West quarter, and the South East quarter of the South East quarter of Section Thirty-one; the South East quarter of the South East quarter, and the South West quarter of the South West quarter of Section Thirty-two; and the South West quarter of the South West quarter of Section Thirty-three; in Township Sixteen, South, of Range Twenty-five, East.

The North West quarter, and the South half of the South East quarter of Section Four, the South West quarter of the South West quarter of Section Five; the Lots numbered One, Two, Three, Four, Five and Six, the South half of the North East quarter, the West half of the South East quarter, and the South East quarter of the South East quarter of Section Six; the East half of Section Seven; the West half of Section Eight; the North half of the North East quarter of Section Nine; the North West quarter of the North West quarter, and the North East quarter of the South West quarter of Section

Ten; the East half, and the East half of the South West quarter of Section Fifteen; the South half of the North East quarter, the South East quarter, and the West half of Section Seventeen; the East half, and the Lot numbered Five of Section Eighteen; the Lot numbered one, and the North West quarter of the North East quarter of Section Nineteen; the North half of the North East quarter, the North East quarter of the North West quarter, and the South West quarter of the South West quarter of Section Twenty; the North West quarter of the North East quarter, the North half of the North West quarter, and the South East quarter of the South East quarter of Section Twenty-one; the North West quarter of the North West quarter, the South West quarter of the South East quarter, and the South West quarter of Section Twenty-eight; the South East quarter of the North East quarter, the West half of the North East quarter, the North East quarter of the North West quarter, the West half of the North West quarter, the East half of the South East quarter, the South West quarter of the South East quarter, the South East quarter of the South West quarter, and the West half of the South West quarter of Section Twenty-nine; the South East quarter of the North East quarter, and the South East quarter of Section Thirty; the East half, and the East half of the North West quarter of Section Thirty-one; all of Section Thirty-two; the East half, the North West quarter, and the North half of the South West quarter of Section Thirty-three; and the South half of the North East quarter, the South half of the North West quarter, the West half of the South East quarter, and the South West quarter of Section Thirty-four; in Township Seventeen, South, of Range Twenty-five, East.

The West half of Section Three; the East half, the East half of the North West quarter, the North West quarter of the North West quarter, and the South East quarter of the South West quarter of Section Four; the North half, the North West quarter of the South East quarter, the East half of the South West quarter, and the North West quarter of the South West quarter of Section Five; the Lots numbered One, Two and Four, and the West half of the South East quarter of Section Six; the North West quarter, the South East quarter of the

South East quarter, the West half of the South East quarter, the North East quarter of the South West quarter, and the West half of the South West quarter of Section Eight; the South East quarter of Section Nine; the North East quarter of the North East quarter, the North West quarter, the East half of the South East quarter, the west half of the South West quarter, and the South East quarter of the South West quarter of Section Ten; the North West quarter of the North West quarter, and the South West quarter of Section Eleven; the West half, and the South East quarter of Section Fourteen; the East half of the North East quarter, the East half of the South East quarter, and the North West quarter of the North West quarter of Section Fifteen; the Lots numbered Two, Three, Four, Five, Six and Seven, of Section Seventeen; all of fractional Section Twenty; the South East quarter of the North East quarter, the West half of the North East quarter, the South East quarter, and the West half of Section Twenty-one; the North East quarter, the East half of the North West quarter, the South West quarter of the North West quarter, the North half of the South East quarter, and the South West quarter of Section Twenty-two; the South West quarter of the South East quarter, and the South West quarter of Section Twenty-three; the North West quarter of the North West quarter of Section Twenty-four; the West half of the South East quarter, and the East half of the South West quarter of Section Twenty-five; the West half of the North East quarter, the North West quarter, and the North half of the South West quarter of Section Twenty-six; the South half of the North East quarter, the North West quarter, the North East quarter of the South East quarter, the West half of the South East quarter, the East half of the South West quarter, and the North West quarter of the South West quarter of Section Twenty-seven; all of Section Twenty-eight; all of fractional Section Twenty-nine; the South half of the North East quarter, and the North West quarter of Section Thirty-three; the North East quarter of the South East quarter of Section Thirty-four; and the North East quarter, the North East quarter of the North West quarter, the East half of the South East quarter, the

North West quarter of the South East quarter, and the South West quarter of the South West quarter of Section Thirty-six; in Township Eighteen, South, of Range Twenty-five, East.

The North East quarter of the South East quarter of Section Nine; the North West quarter of the South West quarter of Section Ten; the North East quarter of the North East quarter of Section Eleven; the South half of the North East quarter, and the North East quarter of the North West quarter of Section Twelve; the West half of the North East quarter, the North West quarter, the South East quarter of the South East quarter, the North West quarter of the South East quarter, and the South East quarter of the South West quarter of Section Thirteen; the South half of the Lot numbered One of Section Twenty; the South West quarter of the North West quarter of the South West quarter, and the North East quarter of the South East quarter of Section Twenty-one; the North West quarter of the South West quarter of Section Twenty-two; the Lots numbered One, Three, Four and Five, and the South East quarter of the South West quarter of Section Twenty-four; the Lots numbered One, Two and Three, and the South half of the Lot numbered Four of Section Twenty-eight; and the North half of the Lot numbered Seven of Section Thirty-six; in Township Nineteen, South, of Range Twenty-five, East.

The Lot numbered One and the North East quarter of the South East quarter of Section One, in Township Twenty-one, South, of Range Twenty-five, East.

The South West quarter of the North West quarter and the North West quarter of the South West quarter of Section Twenty-two; the North East quarter of the North East quarter, the South half of the North West quarter, and the North half of the South West quarter of Section Twenty-eight; and the South West quarter of the North West quarter, the South West quarter of the South East quarter, and the South West quarter of Section Thirty-four; in Township Seventeen, South, of Range Twenty-six, East.

The Lots numbered One, Two and Three and the South West quarter of the North West quarter of Section Four; the North East quarter of the North East



quarter, the West half of the North East quarter, the West half of the South East quarter, the South East quarter of the South East quarter, and the West half of Section Six; the West half of the North East quarter, and the East half of the North West quarter of Section Eight; the North East quarter of the North West quarter, the East half of the South East quarter, and the South West quarter of the South East quarter of Section Ten; the South West quarter of the South West quarter, of Section Fourteen; all of fractional Section Eighteen; the South West quarter of the North East quarter, the South East quarter, the East half of the South West quarter, and the South West quarter of the South West quarter of Section Twenty-two; the South half of the South East quarter of Section Twenty-six; the Lots numbered One, Two, Three, Four and Five of Section Twenty-eight; and the North West quarter of Section Thirty-four; in Township Eighteen, South, of Range Twenty-six, East.

The Lot numbered Two, the South half of the North East quarter, and the North half of the South East quarter of Section Two; the Lots numbered One, Two, Three and Six of Section Six; the Lots numbered Three and Four of Section Eighteen; all of fractional Section Nineteen; the Lot numbered Four, and the South West quarter of the South West quarter of Section Twenty-one; the Lots numbered Two, Three and Four, and the South East quarter of the South West quarter of Section Thirty; the North East quarter of the North West quarter of Section Thirty-one; in Township Nineteen, South, of Range Twenty-six, East.

The North half of the North East quarter of Section Seven; the South West quarter of the South East quarter, and the South half of the South West quarter of Section Nine; the South East quarter of the South West quarter and the West half of the South West quarter of Section Seventeen; the South East quarter of the North East quarter, and the Lot numbered Five of Section Eighteen; the fractional North half, the North West quarter of the South East quarter, the North East quarter of the South West quarter, and the West half of the South West quarter of Section Twenty; the North West quarter of Section Twenty-one; and the Lots numbered Three and

Four of Section Thirty-one; in Township Twenty, South, of Range Twenty-six, East.

All of Section Six, and the North half of the North West quarter of Section Seven, in Township Twenty-one, South, of Range Twenty-six, East.

*Be it further Resolved*, That when the said Henry S. Sanford and his associates shall drain said lands and render them fit for cultivation, and shall, under the lawful authority thereunto to be had and obtained, construct a canal or canals from Lake Eustis or Lake Harris to the point where the Ocklawaha river crosses the line dividing Townships Fifteen and Sixteen, South, said canal or canals to be of sufficient depth and width to be navigable for steam-boats drawing thirty inches of water and of not less than twenty feet beam, and for such boats to pass each other, and shall construct such locks as will prevent damage and injury to the Lakes by the withdrawal of the water, and shall furnish to this Board proof of the completion of said canal or canals, and the construction of said locks, and the permanent drainage and reclamation of at least three-fourths of said lands, this Board will convey to the said Henry S. Sanford and his associates, or to their assigns, four-fifths of the lands mentioned in these resolutions; saving and reserving, however, to the Gainesville, Ocala and Charlotte Harbor Railroad Company any rights it may now have, or may hereafter acquire, in and to the odd-numbered Sections of land lying within six miles of the route of said Company's road: *Provided, however*, That the necessary surveys shall have been made, and the machinery purchased and brought into this State, and the work commenced on the canal, on or before the first day of November next, and the entire work of drainage completed on or before the first day of November, Eighteen hundred and eighty-two, and proof thereof made within one month thereafter.

*Be it further Resolved*, That every forty acre lot, or other equivalent legal subdivision, shall be considered reclaimed under these resolutions, when the greater part thereof has been rendered fit for the cultivation of corn, cotton, or sugar-cane, or the ground has been placed in such condition that it will become fit for such cultivation by the drying of the soil without further artificial drain-

age. In selecting the four-fifths to which the said Sanford and associates may be entitled under these resolutions, the tracts shall be taken in regular order, in bodies or tracts of six hundred and forty acres, the said Sanford and associates taking four tracts and leaving one for the fund, until the full quantity has been apportioned.

The Board then adjourned.

W. D. BLOXHAM,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, February 11, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.

Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

A petition was received from the East Florida Railway Company, a corporation organized under the general laws of the State, submitting the plans and specification of the construction of the road, and requesting that said plans and specification be approved, and that the Trustees will convey to said Company, as the road progresses, alternate sections of Swamp and overflowed lands lying within six miles of said road, and where there is an insufficiency of such lands within six miles of said road, to make up the number of acres to which the Company are entitled in alternate sections within twenty miles of said road.

The consideration of the petition was postponed, and in the meantime, it was *Ordered*, That the Swamp and overflowed lands in the odd-numbered sections lying within six miles on either side of the route of the East Florida Railway, be reserved from sale until the further order of this Board.

The Board then adjourned.

W. D. BLOXHAM,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, February 17, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.

William D. Barnes, Comptroller.

Harry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

A letter was received on behalf of Gen. Henry S. Sanford and his associates accepting the terms of the resolutions adopted on the 10th instant in relation to the drainage of the lands in the Ocklawaha valley, and requesting that the lands designated in said resolutions be withdrawn from market.

*Ordered*, That the lands designated in the resolutions of the 10th instant, authorizing Henry S. Sanford and his associates to drain and reclaim the same, be withdrawn from market.

\*The following letter was received from the Atlantic, Gulf and West India Transit Company:

To the Honorable, the Trustees of Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida.

The Atlantic, Gulf and West India Transit Company, successors of the purchasers of the Florida Railroad, respectfully represent that, according to their calculation, the amount which has been paid into the Sinking Fund for purchase money and semi-annual payments since first November, 1866, (without taking into account what may have been paid in by the Company before the sale) has been sufficient, invested as the law requires, to produce more than the sum requisite for discharging the outstanding bonds at their maturity in the year 1891; and that, this being the case, they think they should not be called upon to make any further payments into the fund, the purpose of the law being satisfied when the provision has been made for the payment of such outstanding bonds

They, therefore, ask that you will appoint a Committee of your number to make the requisite computations, and

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\*This was an old letter without date which came into the hands of the Secretary and was supposed to be a recent inquiry. Should not have been embraced in the proceedings. See subsequent correspondence with Mr. Yulee.

that upon their report, you will take such action as may accord with right and law.

The At. G. & W. I. Transit Compy.

By. D. L. YULEE, V. P.

*Ordered*, That the Secretary reply to the communication of the Atlantic, Gulf and West India Transit Company, and call their attention to the fact that the custody and administration of the Sinking fund of the Florida Railroad has been withdrawn from the Trustees by an order of the U. S. Court in the suit of Francis Vose et al. vs. The Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund et al. and placed in the hands of Aristides Doggett, Special Master and Receiver.

On motion, it was *Ordered*, That the Secretary inquire of A. Doggett, Receiver, what action he has taken towards collecting and investing the interest upon the Bonds belonging to the Sinking Funds of the Tallahassee Railroad and Florida, Atlantic and Gulf Central Railroad, said bonds being in his hands under order of the court.

The bill of Hugh A. Corley, amounting to \$25 for traveling expenses to, at and from Jacksonville, for the purpose of getting information from A. Doggett, Esq., respecting the amount of indebtedness of the Internal Improvement Fund, was presented and approved:

The Board then adjourned.

W. D. BLOXHAM,

President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

• Tallahassee, Florida, February 18, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.

William D. Barnes, Comptroller.

Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The Governor stated to the Board that A. St. Clair-Abrams, Esq., Attorney and Agent of Gen. Henry S. San-



ford and his associates, requested a modification of the resolution adopted on the 1st inst. in reference to a sale of one million acres of land, so far as the same provides for a reservation of 50,000 acres of the lands selected until the whole quantity shall be paid for.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

*Resolved*, That the resolution adopted on the first day of February agreeing to sell to Gen. Henry S. Sanford and his associates one million acres of land, be so modified that the lands selected shall be conveyed by deed as paid for in quantities of two hundred and fifty thousand acres: *Provided*, Gen. Sanford and his associates shall first enter into a contract with the Trustees binding themselves to select and pay for the entire one million acres within one year: *Provided, further*, that if, at the end of the year, the entire quantity of one million acres has not been paid for, the Trustees may, at their option, annul the contract as to the lands not selected and paid for. Gen. Sanford and his associates to be allowed thirty days to accept this modification of the resolution, and to enter into the contract provided for—

The Board then adjourned.

W. D. BLOXHAM,

President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,

Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, February 22, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.

William D. Barnes, Comptroller.

Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The Governor laid before the Board the following communications from John C. Chambers, President of the Midland Railway, Drainage and Canal Company:

Tallahassee, Feb. 18, 1881.

His Excellency, W. D. Bloxham,  
Governor of Florida.

Dear Sir:

Since the courteous reception you gave us yesterday for the purpose of ascertaining from you some facts bearing on the present position of our company, we have thought it proper to lay the matter before you in writing.

Now, that we have at hand the capital necessary for carrying on those portions of the works which have already been commenced, and for proceeding with other works, and have made arrangements for the dispatch of immigrants as soon as the way is clear for them, we are desirous of having the assurance of your Board of Trustees that no difficulty will be placed in our way in gaining possession of the lands to which we believe we shall become entitled under our charter as our works progress.

We can assure your Excellency that a very keen desire exists in our circle of capitalists in England to secure for themselves the advantages they see can be obtained by a bold and immediate investment of money in this State.

The modus operandi proposed by those gentlemen is as follows:

To secure by written agreement the right of purchase or hire of certain improved lands which are the property of members of this Company, and which are now ready for cultivation.

To forward a suitable detachment of immigrants to be placed on the land prepared to receive them.

To carry a line of railroad through the district for the transport of supplies and produce.

To establish a Bank and Land Agency for the purposes of making advances of money to immigrants and others upon land and crops, receiving deposits, and allotting lands to intending purchasers.

As soon as the necessary surveys have been made and the plans matured, to proceed with the drainage and reclamation works in the Okeechobee and Kissimmee Districts, on which a start has already been made going far to prove the practicability of this large enterprise.

As the immigration movement advances, it is proposed to push forward the railway in advance of the land already cleared.

In order to secure the continued co-operation of our circle of English capitalists, in diverting to this State a large portion of the tide of immigration they are able to control, and in investing their capital in extensive works, at first unremunerative, it is necessary that we should be able to demonstrate to them the security of the ground upon which they are venturing, and the undeniable profits to be ultimately earned.

We believe this end could be attained by a resolution of the Board of Trustees agreeing to withdraw from sale all swamp and overflowed lands accruing to the Company in the Okeechobee and Kissimmee Districts, on the continuation in a substantial manner of their works on the Caloosahatchie river; further, by a resolution of the Board appropriating to our Company an amount of land along our line of railway, as it is completed, in place of that to which we should be entitled had not some portions been already sold; and further, by an assurance from your Excellency that the rights conferred by our charter are still in our possession and have not been curtailed by any subsequent charter granted to any other company. Knowing the deep interest you take in the prosperity of the State, and in projects of immigration, we believe that you will be glad to strengthen our hands in this way.

We have the honor to be,

Your Obedient Servant

(Signed) JOHN C. CHAMBERS, Prest.

Midland Railway, Drainage & Canal Co.

Tallahassee, Feb. 22, 1881.

Hon. W. D. Bloxham, Governor.

Sir:

It has come to my knowledge that a false impression is being made in regard to the position of the Midland Railway, Drainage and Canal Company, and I deem it my duty, as President of the Company, as well as to the interests of the State, to call your attention to the fact that the contemplated contract with Coryell apparently covers ground the rights of which have been chartered

by the Legislature to us and also contracted for by the Internal Improvement Board, and that our company has complied with the requirements of its charter to the letter; and as the eight Commissioners on the part of the State, provided for by the Charter, have never met, nor made an unfavorable report to the Executive, thereby empowering you to take from us our chartered franchises, and as we stand a legally chartered company to-day, we ask that your Board do no hasty act to destroy confidence in the government of Florida abroad, and thereby drive away capital and immigration that our company has secured for the State based upon our chartered privileges granted by the people of Florida; but, on the contrary, ask that the Board meet at its earliest convenience and act upon the communication heretofore submitted for your action and now in your hands.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) JOHN C. CHAMBERS,

Prest. Midland R. D. & C. Company.

The Attorney General laid before the Board certified copies of orders made in the U. S. Circuit Court, at Jacksonville, as follows:

United States Circuit Court,  
Northern District of Florida.

Chas. P. Greenough, Admr. for the  
estate of Francis Vose, deceased, et al. }

vs. }

Geo. F. Drew, et al. Trustees of the  
Internal Improvement Fund et al. }

On motion of J. B. C. Drew, Esq., Solicitor for the Complainants, Geo. P. Raney, Esqr., Solicitor for the Defendants, consenting,

*Ordered*, That William D. Bloxham, Governor, William D. Barnes, Comptroller, Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer, Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration, and George P. Raney, Esqr. Attorney General, Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida, be and the same are hereby made parties defendant to this suit in place of the present defendants. Done and Ordered in open Court this February 21st A. D. 1881.

THOMAS SETTLE, Judge.

United States Circuit Court, 5th Circuit.  
Northern District of Florida.

Chas. P. Greenough, Admr. Estate of  
Francis Vose.

vs.

The Trustees of the Internal Improve-  
ment Fund of the State of Florida, et als.

} In Equity.

Upon reading and considering the petition of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund filed herein, it is *Ordered*, That the said Trustees be and are allowed to pay, out of any moneys, proceeds of sales of lands, now held by them or which may come into their hands, any necessary expenses incurred in completing the swamp land indemnity investigations: *Provided, however*, that more than twelve hundred dollars, in addition to the sum heretofore allowed for the purpose of such investigations by an order made herein on the 23d day of December A. D. 1879, shall not be so used or applied—  
Done and ordered in open Court this, February 21st,

THOMAS SETTLE, Judge.

The following accounts were presented and approved:

R. J. Kendrick, for pasturage and care of stock and storage of wagons from June 26 to Nov. 8, 1880, at \$5 per week (Swamp Land Indemnity Investigation) \$96.42.

W. T. Webster, for plat and field notes of T 21 S. R 32 E. furnished Salesman. \$7.00

George P. Raney, traveling expenses to Jacksonville attending U. S. Court, and copies of orders of Court. \$8.50.

*Ordered*, That the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration be authorized to take the necessary steps for the sale of the wagons and teams which were used in the Swamp Land Indemnity Investigation, and which have not already been disposed of.

The Secretary laid before the Board the following letter from A. Doggett, Esq., Special Master, in reply to inquiries respecting the investment of the Sinking Funds:



1881.

Jacksonville, Feby. 19, 1881.

Hon. Hugh A. Corley,

Sec. Bd. of Trustees I. I. Fund,

Tallahassee, Fla.:

Dear Sir:

Your letter of the 18th instant is at hand. Mr. Yulee having had doubts as to my power of collecting the semi-annual payment of one-half of one per cent. and would not pay it to me, no steps have been taken by me in relation to the subject-matter of your letter, or of the collection of the sinking fund—Consequently, both branches of the matter remain in abeyance.

Very respectfully

A. DOGGETT.

The Commissioner of Lands and Immigration reported that he had proceeded to Jacksonville and obtained from the Special Master, A. Doggett, Esq., a statement of the amount due to each holder of coupons deposited in Court, and the payments made to each—The following is a tabulated statement of the aggregates:

| Railroad Company. | Amt. of Coupons |     | Interest on Coupons |     | Total principal and interest. |     | Payments made. |     | Balance due. |     |
|-------------------|-----------------|-----|---------------------|-----|-------------------------------|-----|----------------|-----|--------------|-----|
|                   | \$              | cts | \$                  | cts | \$                            | cts | \$             | cts | \$           | cts |
| Florida. ....     | 300,615         | 00  | 227,664             | 77  | 528,279                       | 77  | 75,813         | 59  | 452,466      | 18  |
| F. A. & G. C      | 95,620          | 00  | 95,537              | 88  | 191,157                       | 88  | 63,145         | 46  | 128,008      | 42  |
| P. & G. ....      | 130,728         | 50  | 94,406              | 44  | 225,134                       | 94  | 23,889         | 47  | 201,245      | 47  |
| Tallahassee.      | 19,288          | 50  | 15,858              | 05  | 35,146                        | 55  | 8,791          | 71  | 26,354       | 84  |
| Total.....        | 546,252         | 100 | 433,467             | 14  | 979,719                       | 14  | 177,644        | 23  | 802,074      | 91  |

Of the foregoing there is due to the estate

of Francis Vose .....\$404,677.68

To other creditors ..... 403,397.23

The Expense account allowed Mr. Vose is as follows:

Under order of Court of February 15, 1878..\$ 33,687.80

Under order of Court of December 3, 1879,  
with interest ..... 60,134.96

Total .....\$ 93,822.76

On which has been paid ..... 56,329.25

Balance claimed as due ..... 37,493.51

On motion, the Secretary was instructed to write to John C. Chambers, President of the Midland Railway, Drainage and Canal Company, and request him to send

a copy of a pamphlet said to have been published by said Company for distribution in England.

The Board then adjourned.

W. D. BLOXHAM,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, February 23, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.

William D. Barnes, Comptroller.

Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The Secretary laid before the Board the statements and accounts of Walter Gwynn, late Treasurer of the Internal Improvement Fund, which were referred to a committee consisting of Messrs. Corley, Barnes and L'Engle.

The Board then adjourned.

W. D. BLOXHAM,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, February 25, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.

William D. Barnes, Comptroller.

Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The Board took under consideration various suggestions made by the parties proposing to reclaim the overflowed lands in the Southern portions of the State with the view of modifying in some respects the contract for drainage, and after some time spent in expressing the

views of the Trustees respecting the suggestions made, the papers were referred to the Attorney General.

An application was received from W. L. L. Bowen for the cancellation of entry No. 2599 made November 16, 1858, by Mauricio Sanchez, of Lot No. 4 (or NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 5, Township 10, South, Range 27, East, said lands lying within the Palatka Military Reserve, and the certificate of purchase having been assigned to the said Bowen, and the said Bowen having also entered the land under the homestead laws of the United States—Congress having passed an Act confirming all homestead entries in said Reservation, upon the relinquishment of the State's title thereto, and the Legislature having passed an Act relinquishing the title of the State to said lands, it was *Ordered*, that said Entry No. 2599 be cancelled, and that the moneys paid thereon, amounting to \$67.42 be refunded to the said W. L. L. Bowen.

The Board then adjourned.

W. D. BLOXHAM,

President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, February 26, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.

William D. Barnes, Comptroller.

Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The following articles of agreement for the reclamation of the overflowed lands in the valley of Lake Okechobee and Kissimmee river, heretofore signed by the Trustees and sent for the signatures of the other contracting parties, were presented and ordered spread upon the minutes:

Articles of Agreement made and entered into this the 26th day of February, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and eighty-one, by and between Hamilton Disston, William H. Wright and Witt H. Drake, of the city of Phila-

delphia in the State of Pennsylvania, William C. Parsons, of Arizona, Albert B. Linderman, of the city of Philadelphia aforesaid, and Ingham Coryell, of the State of Florida, parties of the first part, and William D. Bloxham, Governor of Florida, George P. Raney, Attorney General, Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration, Walter Gwynn, Treasurer, and Wm. D. Barnes, Comptroller of said State, and ex-officio the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, of the second part, Witnesseth: That the parties of the first part, for themselves, their heirs, executors, administrators, jointly and severally agree and bind themselves, at their own expense and charge, to drain and reclaim by draining all overflowed lands in the State of Florida practicable and lying South of township twenty-three and east of Peace Creek, belonging to the State of Florida or said Internal Improvement Fund, now subject to overflow by Lake Okeechobee, the Kissimmee river and its branches, and the lakes contiguous to said river whose waters now flow into, or can be made to flow into, said river or into Lake Okeechobee, or into the Caloosahatchie river, or Miami river, or other outlets, by cuts or canals, including both those already patented as well as those that may hereafter be patented to said State by the United States, the said lands to be reclaimed and drained and rendered fit for cultivation by permanently lowering and keeping reduced the waters of Lake Okeechobee, and thereby permanently lowering and keeping reduced the high-water level of said river, and by thus lowering the waters of said Lake creating an increased current in said river, and by the increased current thus created causing the bed of said river to cut or wash out, and by these means and by cutting off bends in said river to further increase the current of said river and permanently confine the water-flow of said river within its natural banks, and thereby effectually and permanently prevent the overflow of the banks; it being understood and agreed that the drainage, reduction or lowering of the waters of Lake Okeechobee may be made by a series of canals or cuts from the waters of said Lake to the Caloosahatchie river, on the West; and by cuts and canals from said Lake eastwardly to the waters of the St. Lucie, or other available points; and also by cuts or canals southwardly to some stream or streams

through the Everglades; and also by cuts or canals on the south-east side of the Everglades to the Miami river and to any small streams heading or rising in the Everglades; *provided, however*, that no canals or cuts shall be made, dug or constructed unless the same be necessary to reduce the waters of said Lake Okeechobee, to effect the said object of drainage and permanently reclaiming said lands.

It is expressly understood and agreed, that the work and enterprise of making and constructing such cuts and canals, and of doing whatever may be proper or necessary to effect the drainage and reclamation and rendering fit for cultivation of said lands, is to be begun, carried on and continued and prosecuted under the personal direction and supervision of a skilful and experienced civil engineer to be provided, maintained and paid by the said parties of the first part; and that the said parties of the first part are to have the right to throw up embankments, make and construct sluice-ways and dikes, and cuts and canals, in, on and through all lands, or any of said lands, of the State or Fund; and to use any timber or earth or stone or other material on said lands belonging to said State or Fund. The parties of the first part further agree, that they will, within ten days from the execution and delivery of these presents, deposit with B. C. Lewis & Sons, Bankers at Tallahassee, the sum of \$5,000.00, to be held by them subject to the joint order of Hamilton Disston, on the part of the parties of the first part, and the Treasurer of the Board of Trustees of Internal Improvement Fund on the part of the (parties of the) second part, to be forfeited to the parties of the second part, absolutely, if the said parties of the first part shall fail to perform the covenants herein, or any of them; and that, within ninety days from such execution and delivery, they will commence, by suitable and competent engineers, and will prosecute and finish without delay, a thorough survey of levels for ascertaining and determining what portion of, and in what manner, said lands can be drained: That upon the report of such survey being received, and within six months from the signing of these articles, the said parties of the first part will put into the actual work of excavation, within



the limits of said territory, and maintain at regular work thereon, a force of men and machinery as shall not at any time thereafter be less than equal to the labor of one hundred men, until the completion of the said work.

The parties of the second part, for themselves and their successors in office, do agree and bind themselves, and their successors in the administration of said trust, that they will, and their successors shall, pay, give, grant, convey and deed the alternate sections of land, belonging to the State or to their Fund, now patented or that may be hereafter acquired, within the limits of this contract, which may be reclaimed and thus rendered fit for cultivation; such lands to be conveyed in such quantities and at such times as may be justified by the progress of the work, and will be equitable and just to the said parties hereto; it being mutually agreed that the policy of the Board of Trustees will at all times be such as not to pay in excess of the work done, and yet to such extent and at such times as will facilitate and aid the faithful performance of the covenants of the parties of the first part: *Provided, however*, that no lands or compensation shall be conveyed or payable to said parties of the first part, until some considerable quantity of lands, not less than two hundred thousand acres, shall have been reclaimed.

It is further agreed by the parties hereto, that the association of F. A. Hendry, Jacob Summerlin, James Evans, Ziba King, J. J. Blount, M. W. Hendry, H. A. Parker and S. G. Thorp with the parties of the first part, as representatives of such interest in the covenants of these presents as may be agreed upon, with the said parties of the first part, will be approved of and by the parties of the second part.

It is further understood and agreed that all work shall be done in a substantial and first class manner, and that time is to be considered as the essence of this contract, both as to the making of the deposit of Five thousand dollars, and for commencing and completing the survey of levels for ascertaining and determining the portions of and in what manner said lands can be drained, and for commencing the actual work of excavation within the limits of said territory with the force of men and machinery not less than equal to the labor of one hundred men, and that on failure to do either or any of said things

within the time it is stated they are to be commenced, then said Five thousand dollars shall become and be the property of said Trustees, and this contract shall be otherwise void.

In Witness whereof, the parties of the first and second part have hereunto set their hands—the parties of the second part their seal of office, at Tallahassee, on this, the 31st day of January, A. D. 1881,—and of the first part their seals at the time and place hereunder designated. Signed in duplicate.

W. D. BLOXHAM, Governor.

W. D. BARNES, Comptroller.

WALTER GWYNN, Treasurer.

GEO. P. RANEY, Atty Genl.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Commr. of Lands & Immigration.

INGHAM CORYELL (L S)

ALBERT B. LINDERMAN. (L S)

WHITFIELD H. DRAKE: (L S)

Messrs. Ingham Coryell and Albert B. Linderman, parties to said contract being present, certain amendments, additions and modifications of the articles of agreement were consented to and ordered embodied in a supplemental agreement, as follows:

*It is provided*, that this contract is not to be binding upon the parties of the second part until it shall have been signed by the above named Hamilton Disston and William H. Wright—and *provided, further*, that the words "twenty-three" in the second line of the second page of said contract shall be read and construed as "twenty-four."

*It is further agreed*, that if the parties of the first part, or they and such persons as they may associate with them, shall become incorporated under the laws of this State, then the body corporate so incorporated and constituted may take the place of the said parties of the first part, and be entitled to all the rights and powers, and shall be subject to all the obligations, covenants and conditions of this contract.

*It is further understood and agreed*, that should there at any time be a failure upon the part of the parties of the first part, for the period of sixty days, to prosecute

said work, or, in other words, should said parties of the first part omit for said period to carry on the work as contemplated by this instrument, then the said parties of the second part, and their successors, shall also have the right to terminate and annul the contract by notice served upon the parties of the first part, or published in a newspaper at Tallahassee for the period of thirty days. Such annulment, however, shall not affect the right of said parties of the second part to hold and have or retain said five thousand dollars as forfeited to them.

*It is further agreed and understood,* that no interruption of work by high-water, storms, breaking of machinery, epidemics, sickness or disease, or other providential interference, or by any accident, shall be considered or taken into account against said parties of the first part for and during such time as the high water, storms, sickness, disease or epidemic, or other providential interference shall continue, or for and during such time as may be reasonably necessary for repairing machinery, or during the period for which any such accident may interrupt such work.

*It is further agreed and understood,* that after the permanent reclamation of two hundred thousand acres of land, and the approval thereof by the parties of the second part, or their successors, the said parties of the first part shall have the right to withdraw the five thousand dollars.

*It is further understood and agreed,* that the deposit of the five thousand dollars may be made with the Treasurer of the State of Florida, as such Treasurer, instead of with B. C. Lewis & Sons.

*It is further understood and agreed,* that this contract is made by the respective parties hereto with full knowledge of the legislation of the General and State governments in reference to this Fund, and of the acts, resolutions and previous contracts of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund in relation to the drainage and reclamation of lands by contracts made with any person or corporations.

The Board then adjourned.

W. D. BLOXHAM,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary

Tallahassee, Florida, February 28, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.

William D. Barnes, Comptroller.

Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

A petition was received from a number of citizens residing in the vicinity of Long Lake and Deep Creek, north and northwest of Spring Garden Lake, asking aid in clearing out Deep Creek and making it navigable for several miles from Spring Garden Lake and draining the adjacent overflowed lands; and an accompanying letter from Alexander Wallace offering to perform the work for twelve thousand acres of land: which papers were referred to the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration to inquire and ascertain the quantity of land that would probably be reclaimed by the improvement asked for.

The Commissioner laid before the Board a letter from Mrs. Laura H. Randolph with reference to the purchase by the Trustees of the Tract Books and bound plats now used in the Land Office, the property of her late husband Arthur M. Randolph and Henry Wells, when the said Randolph and Wells were agents of the State for the selection of Swamp Lands. The Secretary was instructed to correspond with Mrs. Randolph and ascertain what she will take for her interest in said books and plats.

The following accounts were presented and approved:

M. A. Williams, Commissions on Sales this month,  
\$298.47.

Haley T. Blocker, Services and Expenses as State Agent in the Swamp Land Indemnity Investigation,  
\$204.15.

Telegraphing, \$1.00.

*Ordered*, That \$350 dollars be paid to James M. Baker, Esq. on account of professional services as Solicitor in the suit of Vose vs. The Trustees I. I. Fund.

The Board then adjourned.

W. D. BLOXHAM,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, March 5, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.  
William D. Barnes, Comptroller.  
Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands  
and Immigration.

A communication was received from C. D. Willard, Esq., Solicitor for the Dutch Bondholders in the Railroad cases in the Supreme Court of the United States, requesting that the Trustees make a motion before said Supreme Court that a mandate be issued at once in said cases upon the decree recently rendered affirming the decision of the circuit court, the Attorney's fee for making said motion to be paid by the Dutch Bondholders; also, a letter from Gen. Henry R. Jackson, representing a majority of the holders of the Pensacola and Georgia and Tallahassee Railroad Bonds, urging the same action by the Trustees. Judge David S. Walker, also representing a number of the holders of the Tallahassee and Pensacola and Georgia Railroad bonds, appeared before the Board, and recommended similar action.

The Attorney General was requested to write to Senator Jones and inquire whether the present condition of the suit is such, that the motion requested can now with propriety be made before the Supreme Court, and to request him to telegraph to the Board if that be the case.



The Board then adjourned.

W. D. BLOXHAM,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, March 10, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.  
William D. Barnes, Comptroller.  
Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

Mr. Corley offered the following resolution:

*Whereas*, The Articles of Agreement for the reclamation of the lands overflowed by the waters of Kissimmee river and its tributaries and Lake Okeechobee, heretofore signed by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, and transmitted for the signatures of Hamilton Disston and others, have been returned to the Trustees with certain suggestions and requests for the modification and amendment of said articles of agreement: Therefore, *Be it Resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida*, That the following provisions, modifications and amendments of the Articles of Agreement heretofore signed by said Trustees are adopted as a part and parcel of said Articles:

1. *It is provided*, That the contract is not to be binding upon the parties of the second part until it shall have been signed by Hamilton Disston and William H. Wright.

2. *It is provided, further*, that the words "twenty-three" in the first clause of said contract shall be read and construed as "twenty-four."

3. *It is further agreed*, that if the parties of the first part, or they and such persons as they may associate with them, shall become incorporated under the laws of this State, then the body corporate so incorporated and constituted may take the place of the said parties of

the first part, and be entitled to all the rights and powers, and shall be subject to all the obligations, covenants and conditions of this contract.

4. *It is further understood and agreed*, that should there at any time be a failure on the part of the parties of the first part, for the period of sixty days, to prosecute said work, or, in other words, should said parties of the first part omit for said period to carry on the work as contemplated by this instrument, then the said parties of the second part, and their successors, shall also have the right to terminate and annul the contract, by notice served upon the parties of the first part; or published in a newspaper at Tallahassee for the period of thirty days. Such annulment, however, shall not affect the right of said parties of the second part to hold and have or retain said five thousand dollars as forfeited to them.

5. *It is further agreed and understood*, that no interruption of work by high water, storms, breaking of machinery, epidemics, sickness or disease, or other providential interference, or by any accident, shall be considered or taken into account against said parties of the first part, for and during such time as the high water, storms, sickness, disease or epidemics, or other providential interference shall continue, or for and during such time as may be reasonably necessary for repairing machinery, or during the period for which any such accident may interrupt such work.

6. *It is further agreed and understood*, that, after the permanent reclamation of two hundred thousand acres of land, and the approval thereof by the parties of the second part, or their successors, the said parties of the first part shall have the right to withdraw the five thousand dollars.

7. *It is further understood and agreed*, that the deposit of the five thousand dollars may be made with the Treasurer of the State of Florida, as such Treasurer, instead of with B. C. Lewis & Sons.

8. *It is further understood*, that this contract is made by the respective parties hereto with full knowledge of the legislation by the General and State governments in reference to this Fund, and of the acts, resolutions and previous contracts of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund in relation to the drainage and

reclamation of lands by contract made with any persons or corporations.

Upon the question of the adoption of said resolution the vote was:

Yeas. Gov. Bloxham, Messrs. L'Engle & Corley. 3.

Nays. Messrs. Barnes and Raney. 2.

So the resolution was adopted:

*Ordered*, That the Secretary attach a certified copy of said resolution to each copy of the Articles of Agreement signed by the Trustees, and transmit them to Hamilton Disston of Philadelphia, that the articles may be executed by himself and William H. Wright.

The Governor laid before the Board a copy of a pamphlet published on behalf of the Midland Railway, Drainage and Canal Company, for distribution in England, sent at the request of the Board by John C. Chambers, President of said Company, together with a letter from Mr. Chambers referring to said pamphlet, and criticizing the action of the Trustees as not favoring the plans and objects of the Company.

*Ordered*, That a reply to the communication of Mr. Chambers be prepared by the Secretary and submitted to the Board.

The Secretary announced that formal notice had been given that the name of the Gainesville, Ocala and Charlotte Harbor Railroad Company had been changed to that of the Florida Southern Railway Company.

The Secretary laid before the Board a proposed modification of the details of construction of the Florida Southern Railway, transmitted for the approval of the Board by N. R. Gruelle, Chief Engineer, in the words and figures following, to wit:

Modification of details of construction or specifications as set forth in Section Twelve (Sec. 12) of the "Internal Improvement Act," Laws of the State of Florida:

*First*, The line of road for sixty feet from the centre, shall be cleared of all standing timber.

*Second*. The grading shall be for a single track, except at depots, turn-outs and similar places where it shall be wider if required by the Engineer, with a road-bed fourteen (14) feet wide in cuttings, with ditches of such width and depth as to insure perfect drainage, and eight (8) feet wide on embankments, at the grade line, with

slopes of one and one-half to one. ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 1.) In all excavations or embankments a perfect drainage shall be secured, and no standing water will be allowed to come within three (3) feet of the lower side of the cross-ties.

*Third.* All cross-ties shall be delivered on the line of the road and be of heart yellow pine, cypress, white, yellow, post, live or Spanish oak, white or red cedar, six feet long, with not less than eight (8) inches face, and six (6) inches in thickness, and shall be well and carefully bedded, and laid within two and one-half ( $2\frac{1}{2}$ ) feet from centre to centre.

*Fourth.* At all water-ways, sufficient space shall be left for the unobstructed passage of water.

*Fifth.* In the crossings of all streams, good and substantial bridges shall be constructed according to the plans approved by the State Engineer: and over all streams that are navigated, suitable draws shall be put in to admit the passage of boats or vessels usually navigating the same, the plans of said draws to be approved by the State Engineer.

*Sixth.* The guage of the road shall be three (3) feet.

*Seventh.* The iron or steel rail used shall not weigh less than thirty (30) pounds to the lineal yard, and be of the best quality of iron or steel, and be well secured to the ties with suitable spikes and plates.

*Eighth.* The entire equipment shall be of the first class, and shall at all times be sufficient for the prompt transportation of all the passengers and freight ordinarily offering.

*Ninth.* The grades and curves shall be as the Chief Engineer may adopt: provided, however, that no grades shall exceed eighty (80) feet to the mile, and no curves shall exceed four (4) degrees curvature, unless approved by the State Engineer.

The proposed modification of the details of construction of said road was approved by the Board.

The Commissioner of Lands and Immigration laid before the Board a notice from the U. S. Land Office in Gainesville that James C. Bell contests the Swamp Land selection of Lot No. 1, Section 20, Township 10, South, Range 14, East, and appointing the 9th May at Gainesville for hearing testimony respecting the character of the land. Which was ordered placed on file.

The bill of W. T. Webster for two dollars for furnishing Township plat for Salesman's Office was approved.

The Commissioner of Lands and Immigration laid before the Board a letter from John O. Fries, offering to subdivide Township 21, South, Range 32, East, in a legal manner, furnish a plat of the township and the field-notes for \$200, he paying all expenses of chainbearers and other hands.

*Ordered*, That the Commissioner contract with Mr. Fries for the survey of said Township on those terms.

The Board then adjourned.

W. D. BLOXHAM,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, March 14, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.

William D. Barnes, Comptroller.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The Governor laid before the Board a telegraphic dispatch from A. St. Clair-Abrams on behalf of Gen. H. S. Sanford, asking an extension of thirty days longer within which to notify the Trustees of his acceptance of the terms of the resolution of February 18th modifying the resolutions of February 1st, and to enter into the contract therein provided for.

On motion, it was

*Ordered*, That an extension be allowed as requested for thirty days from this date.

The Board then adjourned.

W. D. BLOXHAM,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.



Tallahassee, Florida, March 16, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.

William D. Barnes, Comptroller.

Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

Samuel A. Swann, Esq. appeared before the Board and made a statement respecting the attempts made by him as Special Agent of the Board to effect the negotiation of the sale of three millions acres of land to parties in England, and exhibited a number of letters received by him upon that subject, and made various suggestions as to the best means of securing a sale.

The following resolution was adopted:

*Be it Resolved by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, That Samuel A. Swann, Esq., the Special Agent of this Board be authorized to negotiate the sale of three millions acres of land, to be taken in bodies of not less than ten thousand acres, at thirty cents per acre, on the following terms, to wit:*

Twenty per centum of the purchase money to be paid on or before the first day of July next; upon which payment, the purchaser shall be allowed until the first day of January next to select the lands.

An additional thirty per centum of the purchase money to be paid on or before the first day of January, 1882; and upon such payment the purchaser shall be entitled to a deed of conveyance of one million acres of land.

The remaining fifty per centum of the purchase money to be paid on or before the first day of July, 1882; upon which payment the purchaser shall be entitled to a deed of conveyance for the remaining two millions of acres selected by him.

In case of the payment of the twenty per centum on or before the first day of July next, and a failure to pay the thirty per centum on or before the first day of January, 1882, the purchaser shall not be entitled to a return of the twenty per centum paid in, but shall take from the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund a conveyance of such quantity of land, to be selected by him, as can be

purchased with the money paid in, at regular prices. In case of the payment of the twenty per centum on or before the first day of July, and the thirty per centum on or before the first day of January next, and the conveyance of one million acres of land, and a failure to pay the remaining fifty per centum on or before the first day of July, 1882, then the Trustees shall be relieved from any obligation for the conveyance of the remaining two million acres, except upon the payment of the regular prices therefor; and the fifty per centum already paid in shall be retained by the Trustees as the price of the one million acres conveyed. In the selection of lands under this resolution, where different tracts are separated by lands not belonging to the Internal Improvement Fund, they shall be construed as constituting one body.

The Secretary laid before the Board a reply to the letter of John C. Chambers, President of the Midland, Railway Drainage and Canal Company which was placed before the Board on the 10th inst.—After several corrections and alterations, the reply was approved and ordered sent by the Secretary to Mr. Chambers.

A letter was received from E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, tendering his resignation to take effect at the end of the month; which was accepted.

The following accounts were presented and approved:

E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, Expenses in February, \$78.50.

Hugh A. Corley, amount expended by him in paying accounts incurred in the Swamp Land Indemnity Investigation over and above the amount of moneys placed in his hands for that purpose, \$31.02.

Postage for Salesman's office, \$5.25.

The following resolution was adopted:

*Whereas*, at the last session of the Legislature an act was passed for the sale of State lands by instalments:

*Be it Resolved*, That the Solicitor of this Board be requested to apply to the United States Circuit Court at Jacksonville for an order which will clearly authorize the Trustees to sell lands upon the terms prescribed in said act.

The Board discussed the question of continuing or abolishing the stumpage system, but came to no determination, and postponed the consideration of the subject.

The Board then proceeded to the election of a Timber Agent; and after three votes were had without an election, this matter was postponed until Friday next.

The Board then adjourned.

W. D. BLOXHAM,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, March 19, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.  
William D. Barnes, Comptroller.  
Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The Board proceeded to the election of a Timber Agent, and, after several votes, B. M. Burroughs was elected.

The Salary of the Timber Agent was fixed at one hundred dollars per month.

Gen. H. S. Sanford appeared before the Trustees and requested modifications of the resolutions heretofore adopted with reference to a sale of lands to him. His proposition was as follows: To purchase 250,000 acres at 50 cents per acre, with the option of purchasing 750,000 more on the terms named in the resolution of February 1st, payment to be made in coupons; to be received subject to an order of court to be procured making all coupons receivable in payment for lands.

After conference and consideration, the Board declined to make the sale on the terms proposed, and so informed Gen. Sanford.

The Board then adjourned.

W. D. BLOXHAM,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, March 24, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.  
 William D. Barnes, Comptroller.  
 Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.  
 George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
 Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

A communication was received on behalf of the East Florida Railway Company, electing under the land grant in their charter, to receive the even-numbered sections within six miles of their line of road. Whereupon, it was

*Ordered*, That the lands lying within six miles of the route of the East Florida Railway, embraced in the odd-numbered sections, heretofore reserved from sale for the benefit of said railway, be restored to market; and that the lands embraced in the even-numbered sections within said limits be reserved from sale for sixty days, for the benefit of said railway.

The Governor laid before the Board a letter from the General Land Office stating that the lands along the line of road from Waldo to Tampa Bay had been ordered withdrawn from market under the railroad grant by Congress of May 17, 1856, the map of definite location of the line of location of said route having been filed by the Atlantic, Gulf and West India Transit Company.

The Board then adjourned.

W. D. BLOXHAM,  
 President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
 Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, March 28 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.  
 William D. Barnes, Comptroller.  
 Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.  
 George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
 Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

The Secretary laid before the Board a telegraphic dispatch to Mr. E. K. Foster from Gen. H. S. Sanford asking to be informed that the resolutions heretofore adopted by the Board respecting a sale of lands to him be considered alternative, and that further time will be given failing action by the Court. The Secretary was instructed to inform General Sanford that he can purchase the lands from the Trustees either upon the terms specified in the original resolution adopted February 1st, or upon the terms as modified in the resolution of February 18th and that should the time limited expire before acceptance of said resolutions, the Board will take into consideration any proposition for extending the time further, and will be governed in their action thereon by the circumstances that shall be then existing.

The Governor laid before the Board the articles of agreement for the drainage and reclamation of the overflowed lands in the vicinity of Lake Okeechobee and Kissimmee river and their tributaries, which had been returned signed by Hamilton Disston, Ingham Coryell, Albert B. Linderman, Whitfield H. Drake, W. C. Parsons and William H. Wright.

*Ordered,* That the same be filed.

The Board then adjourned.

W. D. BLOXHAM,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, March 30, 1881.

The Board met in the Attorney General's Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.

William D. Barnes, Comptroller.

Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

A letter was received from Hon. D. L. Yulee on behalf of the Fernandina and Jacksonville Railroad Company, accompanied with a plat of the line of the road, inform-



ing the Trustees that said road has a gauge of five feet and continuous connection with the system of the State near Hent's Road Station on the line of the Florida Transit Railroad, and that it is laid with steel rails weighing fifty pounds to the yard; and requesting, on behalf of the Company, an approval of the specification of its structure, and that the Trustees will cause to be set aside to it the lands which they consider legally due to it under the laws of the State by way of grant.

*Ordered.* That the swamp lands embraced in the odd-numbered sections lying within six miles on each side of the line of the Fernandina and Jacksonville Railroad, be reserved from sale for sixty days.

The following letter was received from Hon. D. L. Yulee:

Office of the Tropical Florida Railroad,  
Fernandina, March 27. 1881.

To the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the  
State of Florida.

Dear Sirs:

Referring you to the assignment made to this Company by the Atlantic Gulf and West India Transit Company, formerly the Florida Railroad Company, of its chartered rights South of Ocala, between that point and the waters of Tampa Bay, including the right to all grants and privileges appertaining to that part of the line, a copy of which is on file with you. I respectfully request that the alternate sections of the State lands as granted by the Act of Jan'y. 6, 1855, along that part of the line between Amelia Island and the waters of Tampa Bay, be withdrawn from further sale, and that an account be taken of such of the lands included in said grant as have been heretofore sold by the Trustees.

A map of the line as surveyed and located in 1859 will be found in the office of the Secretary of State. I will cause a duplicate to be prepared for your use, and shortly forwarded.

I have the honor to be,  
Your Obt. St,

D. L. YULEE.

Action upon said communication was postponed, until a plat of the route of the Tropical Florida Railroad shall be filed.

John H. Fry, Esq., appeared before the Board and made a verbal proposition on behalf of himself and his associates for the purchase of land from the Trustees. His proposition was in substance that the Trustees should convey to him and his associates six millions acres of land in consideration of the payment of all the liabilities of the Internal Improvement Fund and the construction of a Ship Canal or Ship Railway across the Peninsula of Florida—and should the Trustees decline this proposition he desired them to make to him a counter proposition for the sale of the largest quantity of land they are willing to convey and on the most favorable terms the Trustees are willing to accept.

After some time spent in discussing the proposition, the matter was postponed until tomorrow.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: W. D. BLOXHAM, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, March 31, 1881.

The Board met in the Attorney General's Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.  
William D. Barnes, Comptroller.  
Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

*Ordered*, That seven hundred and fifty dollars be paid to Hon. Charles W. Jones for professional services as Attorney in arguing the case of T. B. Codrington vs. The Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund and others, in the Supreme Court of the United States.

The following accounts were presented, approved and ordered paid:

Hugh A. Corley, telegraph and express charges, \$3.80.

M. A. Williams. Commissions on Sales this month, \$495.53.

The Commissioner laid before the Board a letter from the U. S. Land Office at Gainesville enclosing a letter from the Commissioner of the General Land Office at Washington, giving notice that the State selection of Lot No. 4 Section 13, and Lot No. 1 Section 26, T 43 S, R 27, E, had been rejected upon the testimony taken in the contest of John O. Morgan.

The Board authorized the change of entry No. 9717 made by George W. Turnburke February 22, 1881, upon the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 21, Township 30, South, Range 15, East.

The following entries were canceled and the purchase money ordered to be refunded:

Entry No. 9738 by David Westfield made 25th February 1881, upon the South part of Lot No. 1 of Section 7, Township 19, South, Range 22, East—amount of purchase money \$26.50.

Entry No. 6083 by James L. Anderson made January 3, 1871, upon the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  and NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 8 Township 20, South, Range 24, East, containing 80.42 acres—amount of purchase money \$100.53.

Entry No. 9701, by James L. Anderson made February 17th 1881, upon the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  and NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 8 Township 23, South, Range 25, East, containing 80.18 acres—amount of purchase money \$72.16.

The Board then resumed the consideration of John H. Fry for the purchase of lands, and after a long discussion postponed the consideration of the subject until another meeting.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: W. D. BLOXHAM, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, April 1, 1881

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.  
William D. Barnes, Comptroller.  
Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The Board resumed the consideration of the proposition of John H. Fry for the purchase of lands and the construction of a Ship Canal, and decided not to pass any resolutions respecting the same which would be binding upon the Trustees in the nature of a contract, but to indicate to Mr. Fry by letter what the Board is willing to do whenever the said Fry and his associates are prepared to carry out at once any contract for the purchase of lands—Whereupon, the following letter was prepared and approved by the Board, and signed by the Secretary:

Hon. John H. Fry,

Tallahassee, Fla.

Sir:

I am instructed by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida—to communicate the following to you as the result of their deliberations on the subject of your proposals concerning a sale or grant of lands to you and your associates to be applied to purposes of a Ship Canal across the State from the waters of the Atlantic to those of the Gulf:

1st. The Board has no power to make a *donation* of lands for such a purpose.

2nd. The Board, although it has power to make contracts for the reclamation and drainage of swamp and overflowed lands—Yet in making such contracts it will only act upon knowledge of the exact lands proposed to be drained or reclaimed.

3rd. The Board cannot make a sale of land, for a nominal pecuniary consideration, looking to, and taking the construction of the Canal as the balance to make up a *sufficient* consideration for the sale.

4th. In view of negotiations pending before the Board it does not now desire to make any definite proposition to you, as to a sale of lands, and give you any certain time for accepting the same, and thereby consummating a contract binding upon it. The reason of the Board's unwillingness to do this is that its members are not willing to do anything which will prevent the Board from availing itself of any acceptable offer which might be made in the future and pending your consideration of its propositions, and which might be inconsistent with your rights under such propositions if accepted. In a word the Board desire to stand free to accept any proposition for an imme-

diate purchase of lands which may be made at any time. The Board however is willing to indicate what it will with the lights before it in all probability be willing and ready to do in case you should come forward and propose to carry it out, and in the mean time it has not made sales which would render it impracticable or undesirable to you. What follows is to be considered by you in this light. With this understanding, I will say for the Board that it will sell you three million acres of land to be selected by you and your associates in bodies of not less than ten thousand acres, at thirty cents per acre payable in U. S. currency, or the Board will convey to you and your associates three million acres of land to be selected in similar bodies, upon your surrendering to the Trustees all the outstanding indebtedness due or to become due of the fund arising from the guaranty or endorsement of the Rail Road Bonds issued by R. R. Companies under the provisions of the Act of January 1855 commonly known as the Internal Improvement law, including adjudged costs in the Vose case. Should the Board make a sale to you payable in currency as above indicated it would expect you to pay, say one third of the whole price in say sixty days from your closing your bargain with it, an additional one third within one hundred and twenty days, and the remaining one third within say six months from so closing the contract. As soon as you have paid the first one-third, lands would be withdrawn from sale as fast as you selected them in quantities of 250,000 acres. Time would be of the issuance contract and your failure to make the first payment would avoid it. Your failure to make the second payment within the time provided, you having made the first would give the Board the option to avoid the contract and upon the Board so avoiding it by a resolution, the money paid in would be retained by the Board as its property with the right however to you to take lands therefor at the usual or schedule prices. In case you should fail as to the third payment the Board would have the same right as to avoiding the contract and keeping the two payments made, and you the right to take lands at the usual prices. No deeds would be made you until all the payments had been made except upon the basis of sales at the usual prices.

Should you prefer to surrender the indebtedness refer-



red to above, the Board would be willing to provide for your paying in U. S. Currency after (having surrendered at least \$500,000 of the indebtedness,) an amount equal to the face principal and interest of the remaining indebtedness. All indebtedness should be surrendered or \$500,000 surrendered and the cash balance paid in within six months. The Board would be willing to make reasonable arrangements for withdrawal of lands from sale on the surrender of at least \$250,000 of indebtedness and upwards being made.

It is however to be distinctly understood that nothing is to effect the right of the Trustees to collect the amount due on the decree rendered May 31, 1879, at Jacksonville in the Rail Road cases by Judge Bradley for the balance of the purchase money due on the sales of the P. & G. & Tallahassee Rail Roads; the principal of which balance is applicable to the principal of the bonds, and the interest of which is applicable to certain interest on the bonds. The Trustees would retain the right to collect and keep whatever would be coming to the Board and be applicable to a reimbursement of the fund for coupons or interest thereon taken up or paid by the fund in its transactions with you, the Board having given you lands for such coupons would have and claim the right to the moneys representing the interest on said decree. The Board would be willing to sell you four millions acres at twenty five cents an acre on the terms indicated above as to a sale for U. S. Currency if Mr. Swann will make no claim for commissions, or you will settle with him—the Board will not pay any commissions on the indebtedness surrender plan indicated above—Nothing in our arrangement with you will preclude you from arranging with the Rail Road companies to which grants have been made by the Legislatures of 1879 & 1881, for contribution or reimbursement to you in lands or otherwise by said companies (legal authority thereto having been first obtained) for the payments to be made by you to the Trustees.

Very respectfully,

Your Obt Svt,

HUGH A. CORLEY,

Secty Bd. Trustees I. I. Fund.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: W. D. BLOXHAM, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, April 2d, 1881.

The Board met in the Attorney General's Office.

Present: Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

John H. Fry, Esq., appeared before the Board and suggested various changes in the letter of the Board addressed to him yesterday, but the Board declined to make any alteration.

The Commissioner laid before the Board a Patent from the United States conveying to the State four thousand six hundred and thirty-nine 51-100 acres of land under the provisions of the Acts of Congress of March 2, 1855 and March 3, 1857, in lieu of lands which had been granted to the State under the Act of Congress of September 28, 1850, but which had been located with warrants or scrip in the United States Land Office; being the lands located with Swamp Land Indemnity Certificate No. 2, dated October 20, 1880, which said Indemnity Certificate had been assigned and transferred by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund to Sydney I. Wailes in consideration of his services in procuring an adjustment of the indemnity claims of the State: Whereupon, it was

*Ordered.* That the lands embraced in said patent be conveyed by deed to the said Sydney I. Wailes or to such person or persons as he may direct.

The Commissioner announced that he had received the following Swamp Land Indemnity Certificates authorizing the State of Florida to select in the aggregate 25,813 36-100 acres of United States land, in lieu of that amount of lands in Florida disposed of by the United States by locations of Military bounty land warrants since September 28, 1850, and prior to March 3, 1857, which have been proved to be swamp land:

Certificate No. 4, embracing 20,648.29 acres.

Certificate No. 5, embracing 5,162.07 acres.

Said Certificates having been procured through the agency of Mr. Sydney I. Wailes, under the contract allowing him twenty per cent of the amount received as compensation for his services, and the said Certificate No. 5 embracing 5162.07 acres being twenty per cent upon the aggregate; it was

*Ordered*, That said Certificate No. 5 be assigned to Sydney I. Wailes, and that he be appointed the Special Agent for the purpose of selecting and entering the lands thereunder, and that when the lands so entered by him with said Certificate shall be patented to the State, they will be conveyed by deed to the said Wailes or his assigns.

The Commissioners placed before the Board the following patents for Swamp Lands which had been received from the General Land Office at Washington:

Patent No. 18, of the Tallahassee Land District embracing 58,484 12-100 acres—procured through the agency of Charles Pomeroy.

Patent No. 21, Tampa, now Gainesville Land District, embracing 214,271.76 acres, of Swamp Lands selected by the State of Florida prior to 1861, obtained through the Agency of S. I. Wailes.

Under the contract with this Board, Mr. Wailes being entitled to eight per cent. of the Swamp Lands selected before the war and patented through his agency, it was *Ordered*, That Mr. Wailes be entitled to locate 17,141.74 acres of the lands so patented as his per centage upon the 214,271.76 acres embraced in Tampa Patent No. 21.

The following accounts were presented and approved:

Henry Wells, surviving partner of A. M. Randolph, compensation for the selection of 289,579.61 acres of swamp land embraced in Gainesville Patent No. 1, Tallahassee Patents Nos. 18 and 19 and Tampa Patent No. 21, at 8 mills per acre, \$2,306.32.

J. H. McKenney, Clerk Supreme Court U. S. for copy of opinion in the case of Codington v. P. & G. R. R. Co. et al., \$2.00.

The Board then adjourned.

W. D. BLOKHAM,

President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, April 5, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands  
& Immigration.

The following change of entry was allowed, the application being accompanied with all the papers required by the regulations for the correction of erroneous entries:

No. 8739, by Thomas B. Langford, from the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 29, Township 32, South, Range 26, East to the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of same section.

The Board then adjourned.

W. D. BLOXHAM,

President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,

Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, April 7, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.

George P. Raney, Attorney-General.

Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.

Mr. J. E. Ingraham Agent of General H. S. Sanford appeared before the Board and applied for an extension of ninety days within which to accept the proposition made by this Board, at the request of General Sanford, on February 1st and 14th, 1881.

Two members being absent the Board declined to act till a full meeting could be had.

The Board then adjourned.

W. D. BLOXHAM,

President.

Attest:

Geo. P. Raney, Secretary pro tem.

Tallahassee, Florida, April 11, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.  
George P. Raney, Attorney-General.  
Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.

It being apparent that a full attendance of the members of the Board cannot be had till the last of this month, and it being considered proper by the members present that Mr. Ingraham Agent of General Sanford should be given an answer as to his proposition made to the Board on the 7th inst. it was

Resolved, That Mr. Ingraham be notified that the Board decline to grant the extension at this time, but should assure General Sanford that they will be glad to sell to him or any other person at any time desiring to consummate a sale any lands they may at such time have for sale.

The Board then adjourned.

W. D. BLOXHAM,  
President.

Attest:

GEO. P. RANEY, Secretary pro tem.

Tallahassee, Florida, April 14, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: Hon. William D. Bloxham, Governor.  
William D. Barnes, Comptroller.  
George P. Raney, Attorney-General.  
Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.

The following telegrams from General H. S. Sanford were laid before the Board:

Washington D. C. 12.

Gov. W. D. Bloxham,

Prest Board Trustees:

To simplify matters and prevent misapprehension will accept for company alternation resolutions at its option—first payment to be made within forty days after court admits coupon payment as resolution provides—motion



therefore made yesterday or will be when judge well enough. Reply here.

H. S. SANFORD, Wormleys.  
Boston Mass. 14.

Gov. Bloxham,

Prest Board Trustees:

Accept for my principals resolution May first. Reply.

H. S. SANFORD, Parker House.

Whereupon the Board directed the Governor to make the following reply:

Tallahassee, April 14 1881.

Genl. H. S. Sanford,  
Boston:

There is no resolution of May first or as to your principals. Time for acceptance expired with yesterday. We will receive written acceptance of resolution of February 18th signed by you and your associates if made within two weeks and land not sold to other parties in meantime.

W. D. BLOXHAM,  
Pres. Board.

The Board then adjourned.

W. D. BLOXHAM,  
President.

Attest:

GEO. P. RANEY,  
Secty. pro tem.

Tallahassee Florida April 16 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office:

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.  
William D. Barnes, Comptroller.  
George P. Raney, Attorney-General.  
Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.

The following telegram from General H. S. Sanford received the 15th inst was laid before the Board:

New York 14th.

Gov. Bloxham:

Confirming acceptance please direct description and to be sent reserved from sale.

H. S. SANFORD,  
Brevoort House.

And also the following:

Washington D. C. 15th.

Gov. Bloxham

Prest. Board Int. Improvement Fund

My yesterdays acceptance intended for resolution February first expiring May first alternative with modified of eighteenth which I hereby confirm for self and associates. Reply.

H. S. SANFORD

Whereupon, by direction of the Board, the Governor sent the following telegram; in reply:

Tallahassee, April 16th 1881.

Genl. H. S. Sanford

Washington D. C.

Referring to my telegram of April 14th I will say the Board will not contract by telegram.

W. D. BLOXHAM, P. B.

The Board then adjourned.

W. D. BLOXHAM,  
President.

Attest:

GEO. P. RANEY,

Secty. pro tem.

Tallahassee, Florida, April 19, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.

William D. Barnes, Comptroller.

George P. Raney, Attorney-General.

Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.

The following communication from Mess. Fleming & Daniel, attorneys for General H. S. Sanford, was submitted to the Board by Mr. F. P. Fleming.

Tallahassee, Fla. April 19, 1881.

To the Hon. Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida,

Gentlemen: Representing Genl. H. S. Sanford we accept for him the proposition of sale of lands to him and associates as embodied in the resolution of your Board dated February 1st 1881.

And in behalf of the said H. S. Sanford we request that the said Board do grant him until May 1st next to accept the modification of said resolution as contained in resolution of February 18, 1881, in lieu of the resolution of Feb. 1st if he shall so elect. And we further request said Board to extend the time of the first payment named in said resolution of February 1st from May 1st to May 15, 1881. And, in accordance with resolution of Feb. 1st that the Salesman of the Board be instructed to withdraw from the market the lands selected by virtue thereof.

Respectfully  
FLEMING & DANIEL,  
Attys for H. S. Sanford.

Whereupon the Board passed the following resolution:

*Resolved:* That the letter be filed, and that the Board decline to grant the requests therein contained, but the Board will consider any proposition General Sanford and his associates may make as to purchasing lands on the terms stated in the Resolution of February 1st as modified by those of February 18th, or on other terms when made accompanied with the cash or its equivalent.

The Board then adjourned.

W. D. BLOXHAM,  
President.

Attest:

GEO. P. RANEY,  
Secty pro tem.

Tallahassee, Florida, May 2d, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.  
William D. Barnes, Comptroller.  
Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Comm'r. of Lands & Immigration.

An application was received from John G. Sinclair of Orange county for a contract for the drainage of a body of overflowed land lying near John's Lake in said county,

which application was accompanied with letters from A. St. Clair-Abrams, Esq. and Hon. J. J. Harris, recommending that the contract be made.

The Secretary was instructed to notify Mr. Sinclair that the Board desire some evidence that the drainage of said lands will not be objected to for sanitary reasons by the citizens living near the lands proposed to be reclaimed.

The Governor laid before the Board two letters from Hon. Charles Delano, President of the Palatka and Indian River Railway Company, enclosing sketch of that portion of the line of said railway lying between Enterprise and Aurantia; and stating that he is having a complete map prepared showing the entire "Ridge" over which the road will run—that it his desire to report two and perhaps three lines instead of one, not exceeding in distance two miles apart, as this course will be much to the advantage of the Company in adjusting the right of way through private lands, and desiring to know if there is any objection to this course—Also stating that other parties, under an old charter, are making a survey of the route from Enterprise to Indian river for the purpose of obstructing the Palatka Indian river Railway Company in the construction of that portion of their line, and asking that no lands be withdrawn from market for said parties until the Board shall have acquired a knowledge of all the facts.

The Secretary was instructed to acknowledge the receipt of said letters and reply to Mr. Delano that no lands will be reserved from sale along the line of the Palatka and Indian River Railway without due notice to the Company, and opportunity given to establish all the facts—and also to say that for the purpose of a grant or reservation it will be necessary for the Company to establish *one* line of road in order that the limits of the grant may be defined.

A letter was received from E. J. Berry, late Timber Agent, among other things recommending the removal of Thomas Osteen as Special Timber Agent for Taylor county, and that the Special Timber Agencies for Taylor and Lafayette counties be discontinued and that the Stumpage on timber cut in said Counties be paid at Ce-

dar Keys: Which letter was ordered to be referred to B. M. Burroughs, Timber Agent.

A petition was received from a number of citizens of Orange county stating that the South Florida Railroad had be completed and equipped and is now in running order from Sanford to Orlando, a distance of 22 3-10 miles, and asking that the alternate Sections of swamp lands on each side of said road be conveyed to the company as provided in Chapter 3166 Laws of Florida.

The consideration of which petition was postponed, and the Secretary instructed to correspond with the company respecting the steps necessary for obtaining the lands claimed by the Company.

The following bills were presented and approved:

A. Doggett, Special Master, for statement of coupons furnished by order of the Board, \$50.00.

E. J. Berry, Timber Agent, Expenses for March, \$54.00.

C. A. Bryan, Jr., Binding for Salesman's Office, \$2.50.

Postage for Salesmans Office for March, \$34.60.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, May 27, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.

Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Land & Immigration.

The Board proceeded to the consideration of the proposition of John G. Sinclair for the reclamation of certain Swamp and overflowed lands in the vicinity of John's Lake in Orange county, the Hon. J. J. Harris appearing before the Board to represent Mr. Sinclair.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

*Resolved.* That John G. Sinclair is hereby authorized to ditch and drain the swamp and overflowed lands in Sections 1 and 2, T 23 S, R 26 E. and Sections 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10 and 11, T 23 S, R 27 E. provided the work shall be



done so as to reclaim said lands and render them fit for cultivation, and shall be completed within twelve months from the adoption of these resolutions.

*Resolved, further, That, in compensation for the work of drainage and reclamation of said lands, the said John G. Sinclair shall receive lands as follows, to wit:*

One half of the lands reclaimed, the lands to be divided according to quantity and value by two Commissioners, one to be appointed by this Board and one by the said John G. Sinclair, the said Sinclair to choose which half shall be conveyed to him; or

Two thirds of the lands reclaimed, this Board to have the privilege of selecting, without the intervention of commissioners, the one third to be reclaimed by the Fund; or

The Trustees will sell to the said Sinclair all the Swamp and overflowed lands as they now are in said Sections at sixty cents per acre, to be paid for within sixty days.

*Resolved, further, That the said John G. Sinclair shall notify this Board within thirty days of his acceptance of these resolutions and the alternative agreed to by him—otherwise, these resolutions shall be of no force or effect.*

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: W. D. BLOXHAM, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, May 28, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.

Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The following entries made by Williams, Swann and Corley were canceled:

No. 9480, Lot No. 1, Section 35, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , W $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  and West $\frac{1}{2}$  Section 26, T 59 S, R 40 E, containing according to the record of the entry 605 acres, whereas, the true area is only 588.45 acres—amount of purchase money charged being \$453.75.

Entry No. 9675, Lot No. 3, Section 35, T 59 S, R 40 E and Lot No. 2, Sec. 21, T 60 S, R 40 E, 68-12 acres—purchase money \$68.12—the said Lot No. 2 Sec. 21, T 60 S, R 40 E being United States land.

An application was received from John W. Price for a change of Entry No. 9817 made by Mary E. Price of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 28, Township 22, South, Range 27, East, upon the ground of a mistake in the application for entry—The affidavit not being in the form prescribed by the regulations of the Board, the change of entry was denied.

Mr. J. J. Johnson tendered his resignation as Special Timber Agent for Lafayette county; which was accepted.

A communication was received from the Fernandina and Jacksonville Railroad Company, selecting for said Company the even-numbered sections of land within six miles of its line of road.

*Ordered*, That the even-numbered sections of the Swamp and overflowed lands lying within six miles of the route of the Fernandina and Jacksonville railroad be temporarily reserved from sale.

The Commissioner laid before the Board the following letter:

Escambia, Fla., May 12th 1881.

Hugh A. Corley, Esq.

Land Com. for State of Florida.

Dear Sir:

Last year I bought from the State of Florida Secs. 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 27 &  $\frac{1}{2}$  of 28 Town 1 South, Range 28 West.

Certain parties have commenced suit against me for cutting logs on said lands in actions of trover, and other parties threaten to do so.

They claim to own said lands under a certain Spanish Grant, and claim a United States Court has confirmed the patent or grant.

Will the State defend this suit? If not, will they return me my money with expenses &c. and is there any provision made for returning money rec. for lands sold without title?

Suit is commenced in Circuit Court of Escambia Co.  
32 I. I.

Title case—Pinney agt Skinner—An early reply will oblige yours truly,

E. F. SKINNER.

On motion, said letter was referred to the Attorney General.

The Commissioner laid before the Board the following communication from the General Land Office:

Department of the Interior,  
General Land Office,  
Washington, D. C. May 7th 1881.

Hugh A. Corley, Esq.,

Commissioner of Lands & Immigration,  
Tallahassee, Florida.

Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter of March 15th last, relative to the subdivision of Township 21 South, Range 32, East, Florida. You state that it is alleged in a petition presented to you, "that there is nothing in the field to show that this township has ever been surveyed, except the exterior lines. No corner posts, bearing trees, or lines can be found, and the topography as shown upon the official plats entirely incorrect." In reply I have to state an examination of the official records shows that your statement is correct that "All the land in that Township (21 S. R 32 E) belongs to the State (Florida) except Sections 3 and 4 and a part of Sections 2, 5, 9 and 10." It is also shown that said lands were approved to the State March 20, 1856.

An examination of the official plat of survey of Township 21, South, Range 32, East, shows that the "exterior lines" of the same were surveyed in the "second quarter of 1843" by H. Washington, and that said township was "sectionized" in July, 1847, by Jos. R. Richard; also, that said plat was examined, compared with field notes and approved by the Surveyor General March 1, 1848.

Referring to your statement that "the State is willing to have the township subdivided into sections according to the laws and regulation governing United States Surveys, provided that this can be lawfully done, and the survey established as official," you are informed that as said township has been once surveyed and the survey approved by the government, as is shown by the plat and field notes on file in this office, there is no authority for a

re-survey of the same, unless specifically authorized by Congress—It is, however, competent for the County Surveyor to re-establish all missing corners in accordance with the field-notes of original survey, which may be obtained on application to the Surveyor General of Florida. See Rule for the "re-establishment of lost corners," on page 2 of Circular of November 1, 1879, herewith enclosed.

Very respectfully,

J. A. WILLIAMSON, Commissioner.

Which letter was referred to the Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.

On motion, C. Q. Nevitt was appointed Special Timber Agent for Hernando county in the place of C. T. Jenkins.

The Attorney General laid before the Board a certified copy of the following orders made in the U. S. Circuit Court at Jacksonville:

In the Circuit Court of the United States

5th Circuit, Northern District of Florida.

Charles P. Greenough,  
Admr. of Francis Vose,

vs

In Equity.

The Trustees of the Internal  
Improvement Fund of Florida.

On motion of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida, defendants herein, it is Ordered:

I. That said defendants, Trustees aforesaid, be and they are authorized to use and apply moneys that may come into their hands as proceeds of lands of the Internal Improvement Fund, in the purchase and distribution of pamphlets relating to the State of Florida, its climate, lands and resources, and in advertising the lands of said fund, not to exceed one thousand dollars per year.

II. That the orders heretofore made in this cause be and the same are hereby modified in so far as they may prevent or interfere with the sale of lands of said Internal Improvement Fund to actual settlers thereon, residing thereon or having the same in cultivation, on the terms and conditions and in the quantity prescribed by an act of the Legislature of Florida approved March 7, 1881, and entitled "An Act to enable settlers on State lands to obtain titles thereto;" and said Trustees are authorized to

sell lands in the quantities and on the terms and conditions prescribed by said Act.

III. That the orders heretofore made in this cause are so far modified as to permit said Trustees to carry out the provisions of an act of said Legislature approved February 22, 1881, entitled "An Act to provide for the assessment and collection of taxes upon improvements on the public lands, and for the protection of occupying claimants of said lands," in so far as said act may apply to the lands of said fund and involve any action upon the part of the Trustees aforesaid thereunder.

Done and ordered in open Court this 23d day of May, A. D. 1881.

THOMAS SETTLE, Judge.

The Salesman was instructed to prepare and submit to the Board such changes in the rules governing the sale of lands as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of the Acts of the Legislature referred to in the said Orders II and III of the Court.

The following accounts were presented and approved:

Haley T. Blocker, balance due for salary and expenses as Agent of the State in the Swamp Land Indemnity Investigation, \$41.65.

Mrs. I. C. Kendrick, care and feed of 2 horses for two months (Swamp Investigation), \$30.00.

Hugh A. Corley, cash paid for Copp's Land Owner and Index, express charges and telegrams, \$7.40.

Postage Salesman's Office for April, \$26.10.

George P. Raney, telegrams in Railroad cases, \$3.20.

George P. Raney, Copies of orders of Court, \$3.25.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secretary.

Tallahassee, Florida, May 30, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.

William D. Barnes, Comptroller.

Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands and Immigration.



The Governor reported that he had gone to Philadelphia and had there entered into articles of agreement with Hamilton Disston for the sale to said Disston of four millions acres of land at twenty five cents per acre, and placed said articles before the Board for the action of the Trustees.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

*Resolved*, That the Attorney General be requested to prepare a formal contract on the basis of the preliminary agreement for the sale of four million acres of lands of the Internal Improvement Fund made by Governor Bloxham to Hamilton Disston of Philadelphia, which preliminary agreement is accepted, but is to be subject to any modification which may be agreed on and incorporated in the formal contract.

*Resolved, further*, That the Salesman do withdraw from sale temporarily lands as they may be selected by said Disston or his agents.

The Board then adjourned.

W. D. BLOXHAM,  
President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,  
Secretary.

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Tallahassee, Florida, May 31, 1881.

The Board met at the residence of the Attorney General.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.  
William D. Barnes, Comptroller.  
Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Commissioner of Lands & Immigration.

The Attorney General submitted to the Board, Articles of Agreement to be entered into with Hamilton Disston of Philadelphia for the sale to him of four million acres of land for one million dollars, which were approved and ordered to be drawn up in duplicate for execution.

The Peninsular Rail Road Company announced to the Board that it had completed the construction of its line of road from Waldo to Ocala, and requested that an Engineer be appointed to examine the road with a view of obtaining the lands to which the said company is entitled under the Internal Improvement law.

Ordered, that H. S. Duval be appointed the Engineer to examine the line of Railroad from Waldo to Ocala.

The Governor laid before the Board the following Swamp land Indemnity certificates

No. 6 embracing 1,214.76 acres

|     |   |          |   |
|-----|---|----------|---|
| " 7 | " | 4,859.06 | " |
| " 8 | " | 1,677.92 | " |
| " 9 | " | 6,711.71 | " |

Amounting in the aggregate to

14,463.45 acres,

said certificates having been procured through the agency of Sydney I. Wailes under a contract with the Board by which he is entitled to twenty per cent of the amount certified to the State. It was Ordered that certificate No. 6, embracing 1,214.76 acres, and certificate No. 8 embracing 1,677.92 acres—be assigned to the said Sydney I. Wailes as compensation for his services and that the other certificates numbers seven and nine be held subject to sale under the existing orders of the Board.

The Secretary laid before the Board a letter from James E. Ingraham, President of the South Florida Railroad Company, stating that the railroad had been completed from Sanford to Orlando, and selecting for said Company, the even-numbered sections of land within six miles of the route—and asking that the swamp lands in the even-numbered sections within six miles of said railroad be conveyed to the company.

Ordered, That the Swamp lands in the even-numbered Sections within six miles of the South Florida Railroad be temporarily reserved from sale, and that H. S. DuVal be appointed Engineer to examine and report upon the construction of the road from Sanford to Orlando.

The Board then adjourned.

W. D. BLOXHAM,  
Governor.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY, Secy.

Tallahassee, Florida, June 13, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.

Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Attorney General.

The parties, Hamilton Disston and others, contracting with this Board for the drainage of the submerged lands south of township twenty four and east of the Peace Creek having applied to this Board for designation of the manner in which the lands reclaimed thereby shall be divided, and having recommended and requested the adoption of the following resolutions, which were ordered to stand over for future action, to wit:

It is Resolved by the Board: That all lands subject to reclamation within said limits shall be withdrawn from entry until after the work of reclamation under said contract shall have progressed to the extent of the reclamation of two hundred thousand acres, or to such other amount as may be hereafter agreed upon. When a division of so much as it then reclaimed shall be made, giving the odd numbered sections reclaimed to the said contracting parties and the even numbered sections shall be subjected to sale by the Board; and thence after and as the work progresses whenever additional lands to the extent of two hundred thousand acres, unless a different amount be hereafter agreed upon, be reclaimed, the odd numbered sections of the lands so reclaimed shall be deeded to the said contracting parties and the even numbered sections be subject to sale by this Board: and so on in like manner until the work is finished.

And be it further resolved; at the request of the parties of the first part, to said agreement, that the time for commencing the actual excavation within the limits of said territory with the force of men and machinery not

less than equal to the labor of one hundred men be and is extended to the first day of January A. D. 1882.

B. M. Burroughs Timber Agent of the Board appeared before them, and the advisability of discontinuing the Special Agency for Taylor County was discussed.

Whereupon the following resolution was adopted: Resolved by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida that the Special Timber or Stumpage Agency for Taylor County be and is abolished; and that the former Special Agent, Thomas Osteen do settle his accounts, and that B. M. Burroughs, the Timber Agent of this Board be authorized to conduct such settlement on the part of the Board, and collect and receipt for any moneys due the Board by Osteen.

The Board then adjourned.

GEO. P. RANEY,  
Secretary pro tem.

W. D. BLOXHAM,  
President.

Tallahassee Florida June 16, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.  
Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.  
George P. Raney, Attorney General.  
Hugh A. Corley, Comr of Lands & Immigration.

James E. Ingraham Esq President of the South Florida Rail Road Company appeared before the Board and filed a Plat of the completed portion of their road from Sanford to Orlando and also of the uncompleted portion of their road extending to Punta Rassa and asked that the even numbered sections of swamp and overflowed lands on each side of said line of Road be reserved from sale for the benefit of said Rail Road Company under the provisions of Chapter 3166 of the Laws of Florida.

It was Ordered that the even numbered sections of swamp lands within six miles of the South Florida Rail Road from Sanford to Orlando be reserved from sale until the construction of said Road shall be examined and reported upon by H. S. Duval, civil Engineer,

Ordered, Further that the Secretary Notify said Company that the lands along the uncompleted line of said road, cannot be reserved from sale under the provisions of chapter 3166, as said law provides for aid to railroads constructed "in accordance with such plans and specifications of construction as may have been agreed upon between the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund and the Board of directors of such Railroad Company" and it will be necessary that plans and specifications, shall be agreed upon between the Trustees and said Company before any reservation can be made under said Act.

The Governor laid before the Board two letters from B. C. Lewis & Sons as follows:

Tallahassee, Fla June 1st 1881.

Hon. Board of Trustees Internal Improvement Fund

Dear Sirs:

We desire to know whether your Board of Trustees, has made other disposition of the indemnity certificates from the United States Government, which were turned over to you, by your State agent in the last day or two—than upon consideration of our bid made through Mr. W. P. Denham of our office. If not we desire to be advised, what is the best offer made for such certificates in order to determine whether we will further advance our bid, which we understand to be the highest before your board, If sale has been made at figures below our offer, We desire that you will enter protest against such sale upon your records, for future determination. Respectfully,

B. C. LEWIS & SONS

Tallahassee Fla June 6. 1881.

His Excellency W. D. Bloxham Prest Board Int. Im Fund

Dear Sir:

We desire to call your attention to our letter of the first inst and the requests therein made which have not yet been complied with.

And we ask if sale has been made of the certiffs mentioned in our letter, whether your board will accept now a bid for any or all of such certificates as may hereafter come to the Fund. If yes please state conditions, requirements &c. Yours respectfully

B. C. LEWIS & SONS.



Ordered that the secretary reply to said letters and submit the replies to the Board.

Samuel A. Swann on behalf of C. D. Willard submitted to the Board a proposition to purchase Four million acres of land at twenty-six cents per acre cash. Ordered that a reply to said proposition be prepared and submitted to the Board. The following letter was received from Samuel A. Swann,

Tallahassee Fla June 16-78.

Trustees I. I. Fund,

Gentlemen:

Confirming my several communications and telegrams to your Board, under date of May 24th, 27th & 31st and June 2d-81 (all of which I trust you will again review) I now desire to file this my claim for commissions—say for a sum not less than three cents per acre on the 1,000,000 acres of land sold by me to James Mac Laren and others, as heretofore advised, to be paid by you from proceeds of such other sale as you may determine to consummate in lieu of the sale effected by me as above stated.

I beg to call your attention to the resolutions of the Board April 27-77 and to the Patty issued to me June 1-77. In these papers (which have never been revoked but have several times been confirmed) you authorize me to sell "not less than one million, nor more than 3,000,000 acres of land," at not less than 30c per acre. In resolutions of Feb 16th 1881, you so modified my instructions as to allow purchaser to select lands in bodies of 10,000 acres and to make payments, say 1-5th cash and balance Jan'y 1882 and Jan'y 1883.

Under these several resolutions and Patty, I entered into negotiations for sales of sufficient of the State lands to provide for the indebtedness against the Fund and duly reported Sale made to James Mac Laren and others of one million acres at 40c, and of three million acres to James Hastings, Philip Bythe and others, of London, at 30c per acre.

In the first case \$110,000 was paid on acct of purchase three days before the report was made to your Board of a preliminary & conditional agreement with Hamilton Disston of Phila. of 4,000,000 acres at 25c, and of your notification to me of said conditional sale.

In the other case the parties were allowed until July 1st 81 in which to make their deposit of \$200,000. But notified me that they were ready on the 16th ulto to comply with their contract.

I claim that, in effecting these desirable sales, I have accomplished what I undertook and the duty that was assigned to me, I further claim that the other propositions made direct to your Board, were occasioned by, and were the result of the competition brought about by me in popularizing the undertaking and bringing it (through my parties) to the notice of the present competitors.

Hearing that Mr. Disston would likely fail to carry out his purchase, I now (in addition to the sales already effected by me) come before you with a further proposition to take the whole 4,000,000 acres and pay for same \$40,000, more than any one else is willing to pay, and I propose that if you accept this offer, to release you from all obligations to pay me the agreed commissions.

In equity, if not in law, I am clearly entitled to the comps agreed to be paid of 3c per acre on 3,000,000 acres, but under no circumstances can I consent to a less compensation than 3c per acre on the 1,000,000 acres actually sold to James MacLaren and others.

Be pleased to act upon this matter and let me have the result of conclusions this afternoon. Respectfully

SAML. A. SWANN.

The Secretary was instructed to notify Mr. Swann that the Trustees do not think that he has a strict legal claim to commissions but in view of his services as Agent of the Board and of the benefits which the fund has derived from his services, the Trustees will take into consideration the question of remunerating him therefor.

The following proposition was received from Alex. St. Clair Abrams and ordered to be spread upon the minutes

Tallahassee Fla. June 16th 1881  
To the Trustees Internal Improvement Fund

I make application to purchase 250,000 acres of land at 50c per acre cash, or coupons, in bodies of 640 acres and upwards, I to have the right of selection of any lands belonging to the State, not already deeded to others. I to

put up a forfeit of \$20,000 and to select and pay for the 250,000 acres within ninety days from this date.

Yours very Truly

ALEX ST. CLAIR-ABRAMS.

The Salesman announced to the Board that the plat of survey of the Florida Tropical Railroad from Ocala to Tampa had been filed and that the alternate sections designated by odd numbers of Swamp and Internal Improvement Land had been reserved from sale for the benefit of said Company under the previous orders of the Board.

A bill of Charles E. Dyke for printing amounting to \$101.50 was presented and approved.

W. H. Walker Sheriff of Wakulla County presented an account against the Board for \$40.00 balance of expenses and services in seizing cedar timber and guarding and rafting same to St Marks.

Ordered that Twenty Dollars be paid Mr. Walker in full compensation for balance due him.

The following, Resolution, was offered—Resolved That after sixty days from the adoption of this resolution the lands heretofore reserved for the benefit of the Lake Jessup, Ocala & Kessimmee River Railroad and Navigation Company shall be restored to market.

The consideration of said Resolution was postponed thirty days and the Secretary instructed to notify Hon. J. J. Harris President of said company that the foregoing resolution is under consideration.

Alex St. Clair Abrams in behalf of John G. Sinclair, proposed to the Board to purchase the lands embraced and described in the resolutions of May 27, 1881, and authorizing the said Sinclair to reclaim the same and also the South West quarter of the South West quarter of Section Twenty-eight and the North West quarter, and the North West quarter of the South West quarter of Section Thirty-three in Township Twenty-two South, of Range Twenty-seven East and pay for the same at 30c per acre, which proposition was accepted by the Board—provided payment shall be made within sixty days from this date.

The following entry was cancelled, to wit: No. 9254, made May 24, 1880 by Nelson Benton embracing the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of NE $\frac{1}{4}$  & NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 14, in T 4 N, R 24 E. and the purchase money paid therefor amounting to \$72.00 was ordered to be refunded. The application for the cancellation of said entry being accompanied with the affidavit and reconveyance prescribed by the regulations of the Board.

The following Resolution was unanimously adopted: Resolved: That hereafter the Trustees will not sell any lands except on the terms and at the prices fixed by the general rules and regulations of the Board.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: W. D. BLOXHAM, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secty.

Tallahassee Fla June 17, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: William D. Bloxham, Governor.

Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Atty. General.

Hugh A. Corley, Comr. of Lands & Immigration.

The Peninsular Rail Road Company having reported the completion of its road from Waldo to Ocala and asked the appointment of an Engineer to examine the construction of said road—

And the Florida Southern Railway Company having reported the construction of their road a part of the way from Palatka in the direction of Gainesville,

It was ordered that H. S. Duval be appointed Engineer to examine said roads and report to the Trustees the manner of construction thereof.

In view of the anticipated increase of work in the land office by reason of the recent large land sale and for adjusting the Rail Road Grants it was Ordered That the Salesman be authorized to employ temporarily an additional clerk at a salary of Fifty dollars per month.

The Board then adjourned.

Attest: W. D. BLOXHAM, President.  
HUGH A. CORLEY, Secty.

Tallahassee, Florida, June 25th, 1881.

The Board met.

Present: Hon. Wm. D. Bloxham, Governor.

Hon. Wm. D. Barnes, Comptroller.

Hon. Geo. P. Raney, Attorney General.

Mr. Fred T. Myers was elected Secretary *pro tem*.

The Palatka & Indian River Railway Company having filed a survey of that part of the route of said Company between a point on the St. Johns River opposite Palatka, and Titusville on Indian River; and the President of said Company having elected the odd-numbered sections of land to be withdrawn, It was ordered, that the odd-numbered sections of the lands donated to the State by the Act of Congress of September 28th 1850 on either side of said line or route and within six miles thereof be and the same are hereby withdrawn from sale until the further order of the Board. The Board then adjourned.

Attest:

W. D. BLOXHAM, President.

FRED. T. MYERS, Secretary *pro tem*.

Tallahassee, Fla., June 29, 1881.

The Board met in the Executive Office.

Present: W. D. Bloxham, Governor.

W. D. Barnes, Comptroller.

Henry A. L'Engle, Treasurer.

George P. Raney, Atty. General.

Hugh A. Corley, Comr. Lands & Immigration.

The South Florida Railroad Company submitted to the Board the following specifications of construction:

Plans of construction of the South Florida Railroad from Sanford, Orange County, Florida, to Punta Rassa, Monroe County, Florida, with a branch from Bartow to Tampa.

First. The line of road for sixty feet from the centre shall be cleared of all standing timber.

Second. The grading shall be for a single track except at depots, turnouts and similar places where it shall be wider if required by the Engineer, with road bed fourteen feet wide in cuttings, with ditch of such width and depth



as to insure perfect drainage, and nine feet wide on embankments at the grade line with slopes of one and a half to one, in all excavations or embankments a perfect drainage shall be secured and no standing water will be allowed to come within three feet of the lower side of the crossties.

Third. All crossties shall be of heart yellow pine, cypress or other durable wood to be approved by the Engineer and shall be six feet long, eight inches on the face and five inches in thickness, well and carefully bedded and laid within two feet from centre to centre.

Fourth. At all water-ways sufficient space shall be left for the unobstructed passage of water.

Fifth. In the crossing of all streams, good and substantial bridges shall be constructed according to the plans approved by the State Engineer—And over all streams that are navigated, draws shall be put in to admit the passage of boats or vessels usually navigating the same, the plans of said draws to be approved by the State Engineer.

Sixth. The gauge of the road shall be three feet.

Seventh. The Iron or steel rail used shall not be less than thirty pounds per lineal yard, and be of the best quality, secured to the ties with suitable spikes and plates.

Eighth. That part of the road between Sanford and Orlando now laid with iron of sixteen pounds per lineal yard shall be relaid with thirty pound iron as soon as the present iron is worn out.

Ninth. The entire equipment shall be of the first class and shall at all times be sufficient for the prompt transportation of all passengers and freight ordinarily offering.

Tenth. The grades and curves shall be as the Chief Engineer may adopt, provided however that no grade shall exceed sixty feet to the mile and no curve shall exceed four degrees of curvature unless approved by the State Engineer.

Respectfully submitted to the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida.

EDWARD R. TRAFFORD, Chief Engineer  
South Florida Railroad Company.

The following Resolution was unanimously adopted—  
**Resolved**, That after Geo. G. McWhorter has been satisfied as to the balance of 22,000 acres of Swamp Land Indemnity certificates heretofore agreed to be sold to him and which have not been delivered—any further certificates received by the Board shall be held subject to private sale at the prices fixed for the like quantity of State land as may be expressed in any certificate received—**But if two or more applications shall be made for any certificate, the same shall be sold by the Salesman to the person who shall offer the highest price for the same.**

And it is further Resolved, if the Salesman shall at any time before the receipt of any such certificates, receive notice that any person, firm or corporation intends or desires to purchase any of said certificates when received, It shall be the duty of the Salesman on the future receipt of any of such certificates to fix a day sufficiently long after such receipt to give notice to all such applicants that, on that day the certificates received shall be held subject to sale to the highest bidder and on such day the Salesman shall sell the said certificates to whomsoever shall offer the highest price therefor.

The following Resolution was adopted:

That all applications for drainage be postponed until after the adjustment of the sale of lands to Hamilton Disston and the Railroad Grants of the two last sessions of the Legislature.

Under the foregoing Resolution the following propositions for drainage were postponed: By James P. Sanchez for the drainage of St. Marks pond—By the Little River Canal Company for lands south of lake Tohopekaliga. By Alexander Wallace for the improvement of Deep Creek.

The Secretary laid before the Board the bond of C. Q. Nevitt as special timber agent for Hernando County which was approved.

The Secretary was instructed to notify Mr. Coryell of the withdrawal of the alternate sections within six miles of the Tropical Florida Railway Company, from Ocala to Tampa.

A proposition was received from George T. Pittman of Louisville, Kentucky, for the purchase of half million

acres of land at twenty five cents per acre which proposition was rejected.

The following letter in behalf of P. B. Brown was ordered to be spread on the minutes:

Tallahassee, Fla., June 27, 1831.

To His Excellency, W. D. Bloxham, President of the Board of Internal Improvement.

Dear Sir: We as attorneys for J. B. Brown one of the original incorporators of the Gainesville, Ocala & Charlotte Harbor Railroad Co. now Southern Railway Co., respectfully "request that he be notified by your honorable body before deeds are made by the Board to Southern Railway Co." under the State grant. Mr. Brown desires to be heard before the Board, for the purpose of presenting certain important matters connected therewith - reasonable and timely notice is all he asks.

Yours Truly,

THRASHER & HAMPTON,

Attys for J. B. Brown.

The following bills were presented and approved:

To J. W. Britton, Express charges One Dollar & 75 cts.

To M. A. Williams, Commissions on sales for April and May \$975.59.

To John McDougall, Stationary Bill, \$15.15.

To Henry A. L'Engle, Telegram to Philadelphia \$1.00.

The Board then adjourned.

W. D. BLOXHAM,

President.

Attest:

HUGH A. CORLEY,

Secy.

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\*The Secretary was instructed to say to Messrs. Thrasher & Hampton that if Mr. Brown knows any reason why lands should not be conveyed to the Florida Southern Railway Company, he should communicate the same at once to the Trustees.

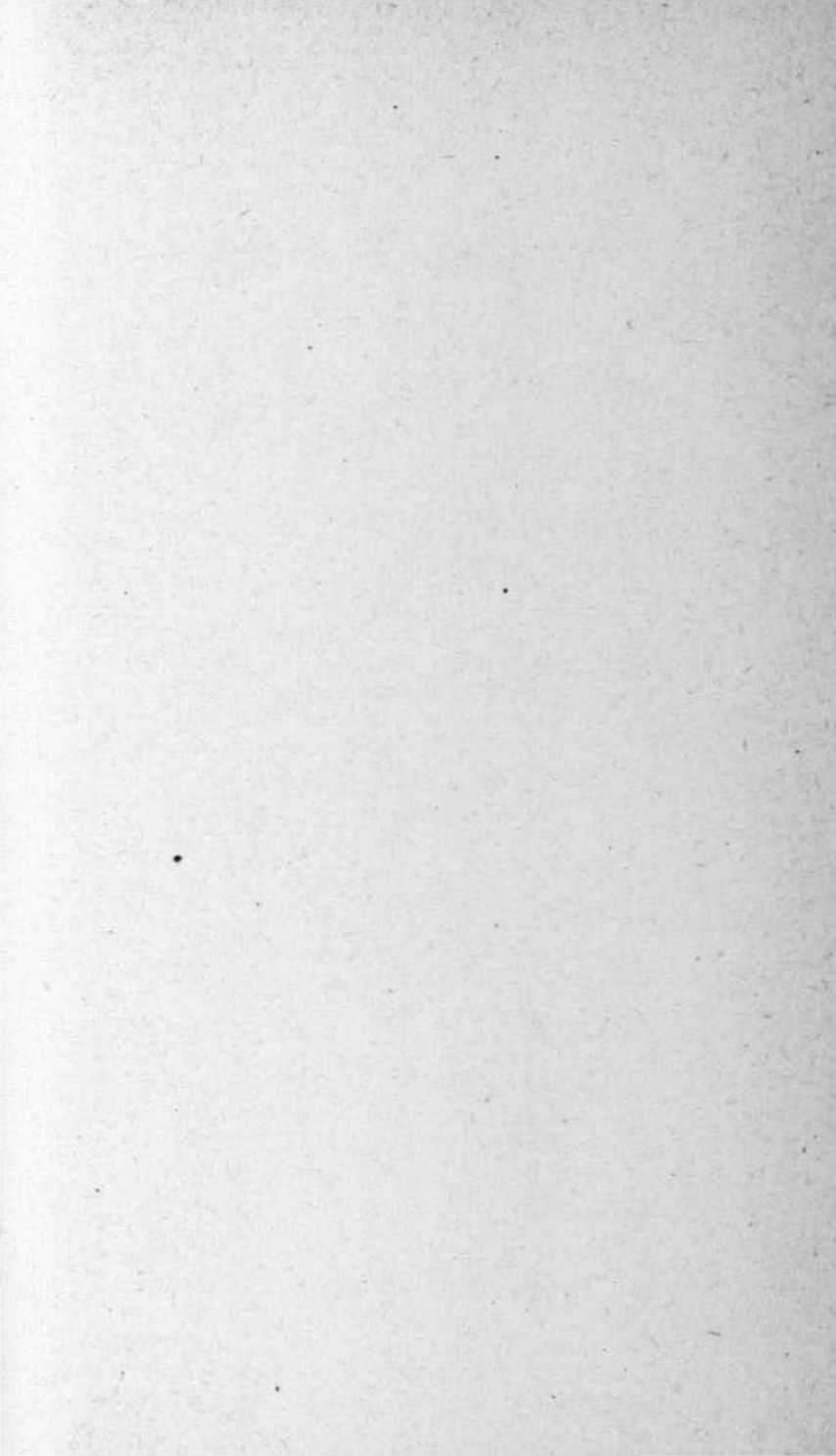
I, William M. McIntosh, Jr., Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, do hereby certify that the foregoing pages contain true and correct copies of the original minutes of the proceedings of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, as appears of record in Volumes 2 and 3, of the official minutes of the Board; containing the minutes of each meeting held, as recorded, beginning with the meeting held on February 8, A. D. 1873, and ending with the meeting held on June 29th, A. D. 1881, which said Volumes 2 and 3, are now in my official custody.



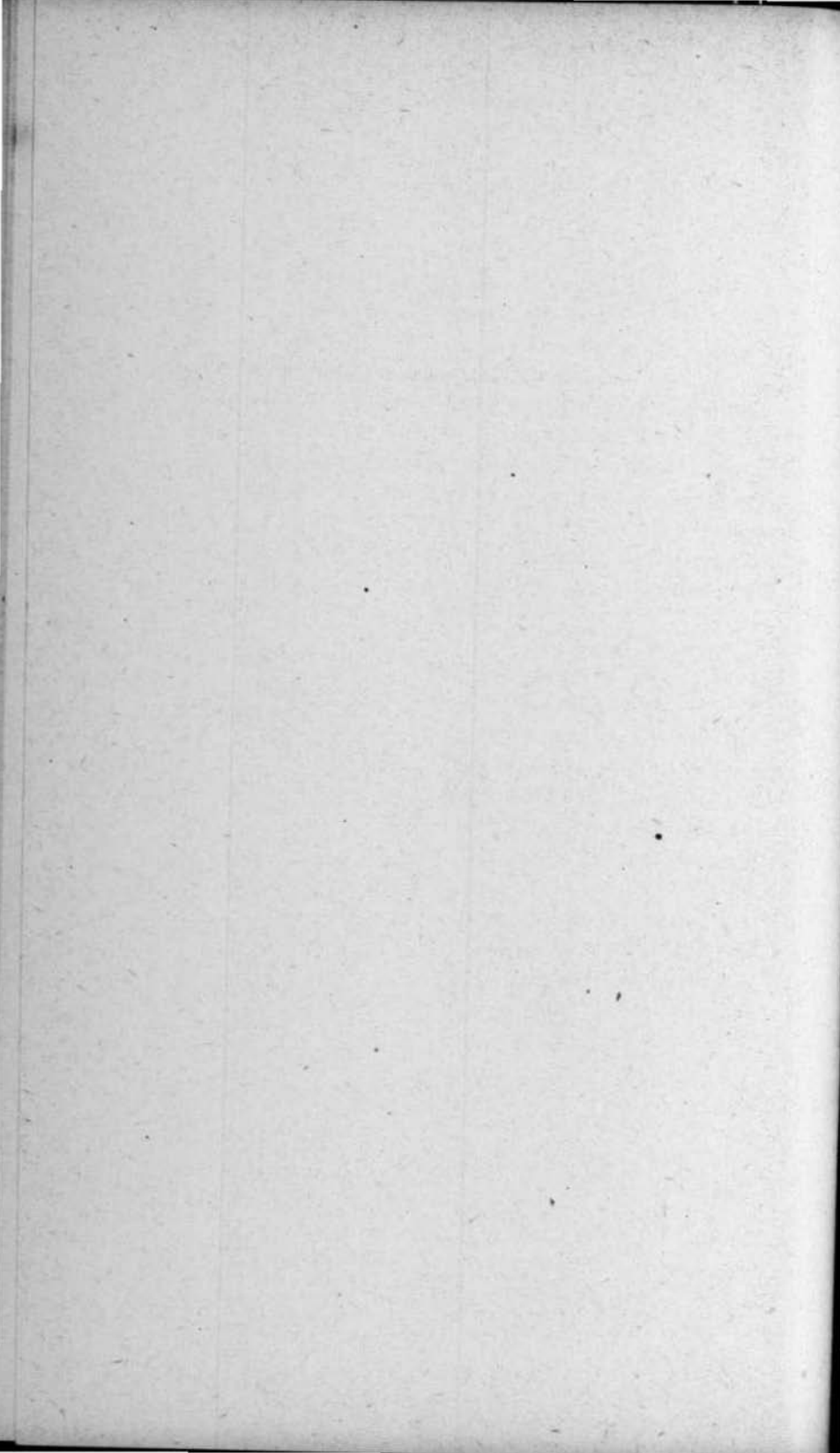
In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and the Seal of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, this the first day of August A. D. Nineteen hundred and four.

W. M. MCINTOSH, JR.

Secretary Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida.







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